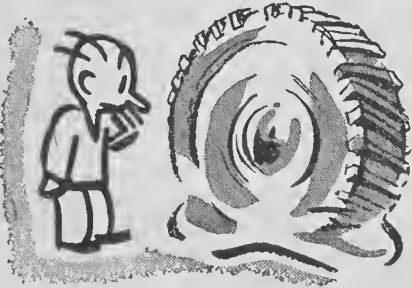


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[Photo by H. Armstrong Roberts]

THE Country GUIDE

What's In This Issue

NOVEMBER, 1949

Cover—by Clarence Tilenius	
Under the Peace Tower—by Austin F. Cross	5
British Columbia Letter—by Chas. L. Shaw	18
Editorials	74

ARTICLES

Approach to Stability and Plenty—by H. S. Fry	7
Paratroopers in the Peace—by C. D. La Nauze	10
An Economy Farm House—by Edwin Raines	11
Our Pet Skunks—by F. Fleming	12
Potato Pioneers—by R. G. Martin	13
The Stimulus of Strophanthus—by Wheeler McMillen	33
The Day We Raised the Tower—by G. H. Herbert	40
Large-Scale Turkey Ranch—by G. S. Way	45
Can Animals See Color?—by David Gunston	47

FICTION

The Dream and Mr. Beelby—by Katherine Howard	8
A Hurdle of Habit—by H. Patricia Ross	9

FARM

News of Agriculture	14	Horticulture	30
Get It At a Glance	17	Poultry	34
Livestock	20	Workshop in November	36
Field	24	Farm Young People	38

HOME

The Countrywoman—by Amy J. Roe	57
The Story of Big Nance—by Annie S. Greenwood	58
Use Sour Milk and Cream	60
Spotlight on Lamb—by Lillian Vigrass	61
Tips for the Fingertips—by Loretta Miller	62
Cut Your Costs—by Margaret M. Speechly	63
Gifts to Make—by Anna De Belle	67
Winter Styles	68
Party Fun Features—by Walter King	69
The Country Boy and Girl	73

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Editors: P. M. ABEL and H. S. FRY. Home Editor: AMY J. ROE
Associate Editors: RALPH HEDLIN and R. G. MARTIN

Advertising Manager: K. D. EWART. Extension Director: G. B. WALLACE

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Under The Peace Tower

AFTER 82 years, our country has got itself a new name. Universally identified as The Dominion of Canada ever since Confederation, it is now called just plain Canada. The change is as drastic as if United States of America suddenly started to call itself the American States.

Like so many things that Canada does, it came about almost unnoticed. But one day, the government switch-board girls who answer the government exchange at Ottawa, 2-8211, began answering "Government of Canada" instead of the former "Dominion Government." Public curiosity was aroused, newspapermen began to inquire, and suddenly stories blossomed. The Canadian Press, which usually cuts down reporters' stories, expanded the Ottawa Citizen's original item, by recalling prospective legislation, and giving some documentation.

High government sources pooh-pooed the whole thing as being new, said it was old stuff. Only they hadn't told anybody. But those who scurried to the phone book found out that, sure enough, the Dominion Government was no longer under "D" but "G" for Government of Canada.

This silent, unannounced change, which constitutionalists regard as profound, and which they also interpret as another gesture away from colonial thralldom, is characteristic of Canada. This country was not begotten on a field of battle, as was United States, but on a constitutional table. There runs in Canadian veins, then, not the hot desires of a nation which puts its hand over its heart when it pledges its allegiance, but the cooler combination which, as likely as not, does not know the English words to O Canada.

As an example of this, when the government ceased to fly the Union Jack on Parliament Hill, and sometime after the war, began to fly the Red Ensign of Canada from the Peace Tower, there was no announcement. People just looked up one day, and there was the Canadian flag. The Union Jack had gone. So we quietly became Canada, after 82 years when we had at least the fiat title of Dominion of Canada. One says fiat, for originally, at the very very beginning, Canada was Canada.

LIKE a rib taken out of Adam to make Eve, Canada is a legal rib taken out of the British statutes. Whispered through the British House of Commons, sandwiched in between some far more interesting debates on dogs, was the British North American Act of 1867. Thus Canada came into being by an Act, just like that. And done while the peers and commoners took time off from dog talk to hustle through the B.N.A. Act.

Section 3 definitely says that we shall be called Canada, and in another place the Act says: "The name Canada shall be taken to mean Canada as constituted under this Act." Again it says: "Canada shall be divided into four provinces." But for all of that, the fiat title Dominion of Canada grew up, and stayed with us.

The word dominion was favored by Sir John A. Macdonald, first prime minister of Canada, and greatest



Father of Confederation. The Biblical phrase "Dominion from Sea to Sea" impressed Sir John A., and indeed that same phrase is also carved outside the parliament buildings. But it became carved in the minds of half a dozen generations of Canadians too.

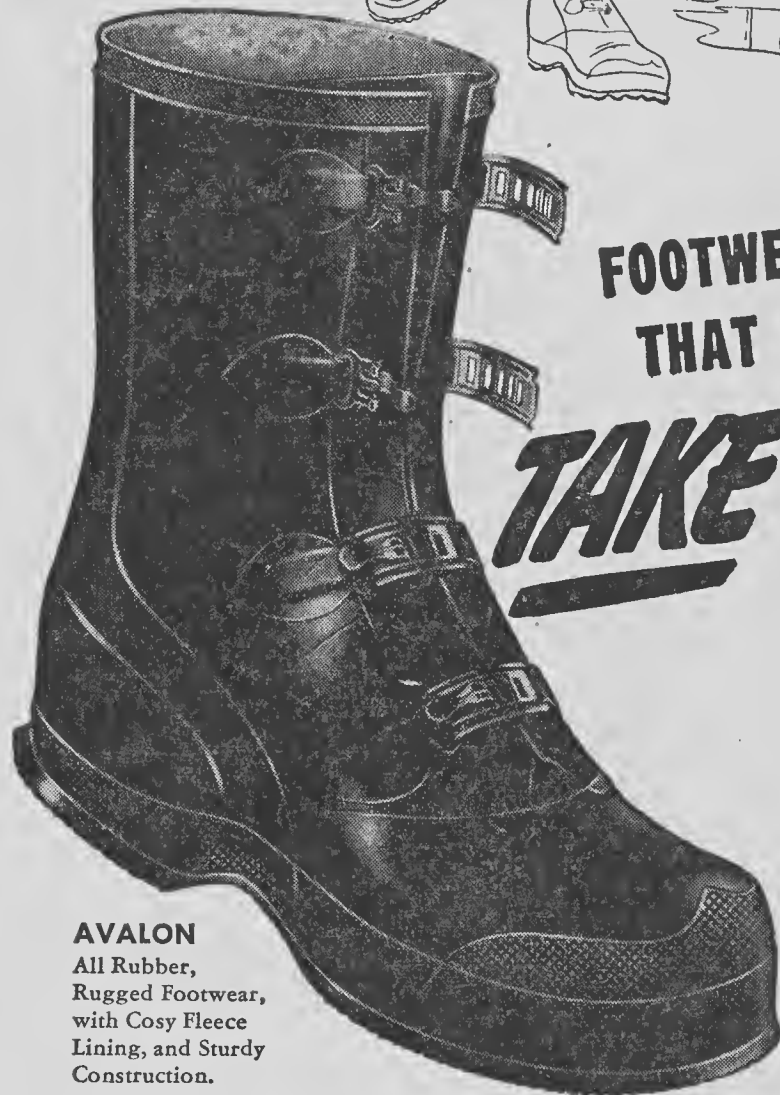
But dominion has come to have, in the minds of not a few Canadians, a colonial flavor. Gradually, as Canada grew up and cut the apron strings one by one, this one remained. Two years ago, it was thrown into violent focus when Philius Cote, member of parliament for Matapedia-Matane, got a bill on the order paper, in the House of Commons, to change the national holiday's name from Dominion Day to Canada Day. On private members' day, in such circumstances, the whips are called off, there is no party policy, nor government discipline, and the bills take their chances. To the surprise of everybody, the Canada Day bill passed the Commons. Mr. Cote enjoyed for a while at least, the sobriquet: "Canada Day Cote."

French Canada has never been happy under too many reminders of the British connection, and there always have been bills, which died a-borning, being introduced from that quarter to eliminate such colonial inferences. There were, indeed, at least two bills on the order paper, to be brought up in this parliament, the purpose of which is to cut down, even more, the British connection. In view of the government change, these bills might be withdrawn.

So far, nobody has discovered any minute, any memorandum, any anything which shows how the change was made from Dominion of Canada to Canada. It was said to have been a verbal order. Unquestionably it was passed a while before the public knew of it, for the Bell Telephone Company always needs some months ahead of directory publication to make its changes of names and addresses. Unwittingly the Bell was walking around with a big constitutional "scoop" on its hands, and didn't

Turn to page 44

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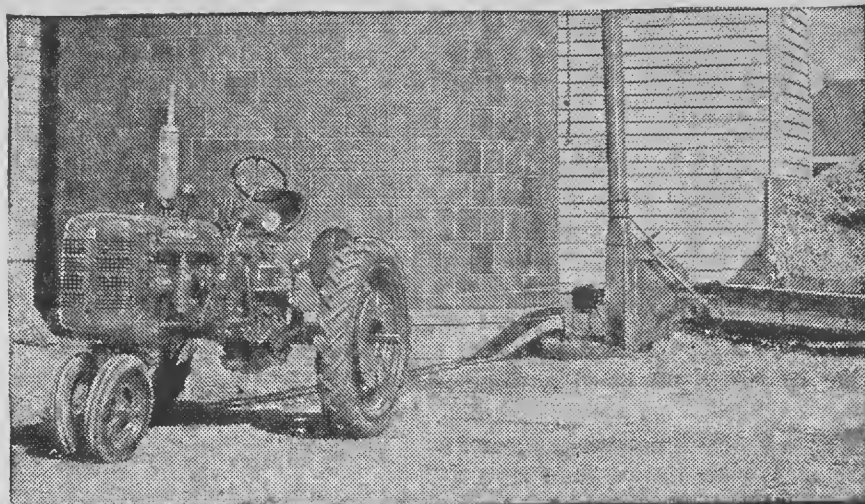
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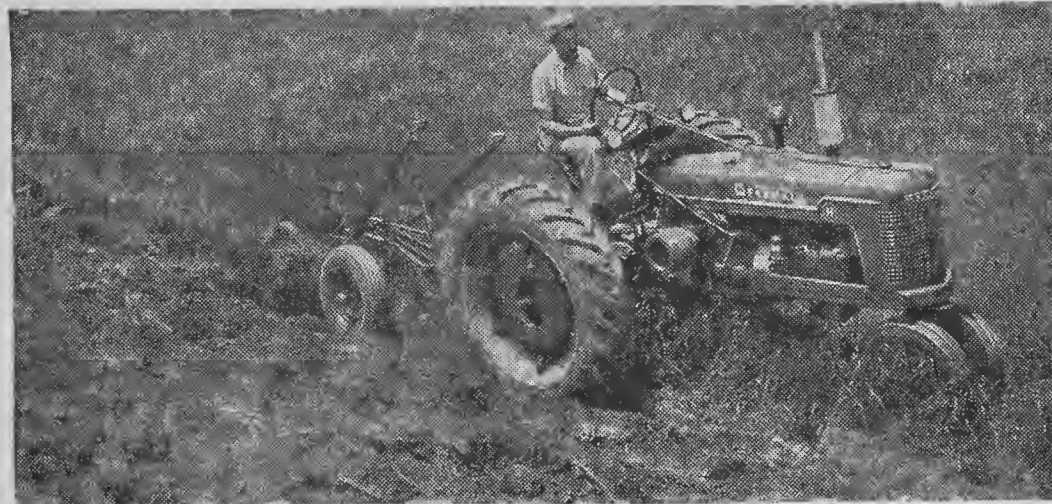


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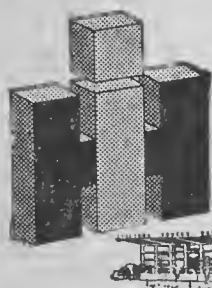
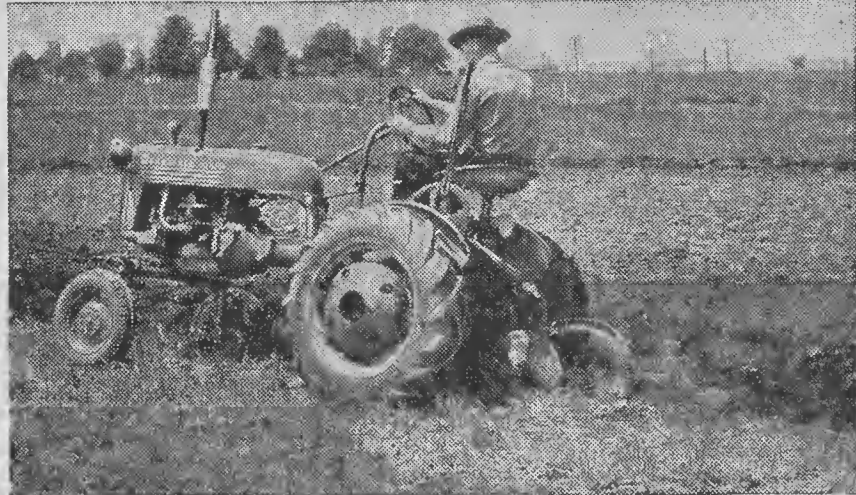
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Approach to STABILITY and PLENTY

by H. S. FRY

U.S. farm policy, dedicated to abundance, stability and conservation is the product of time, experience and public discussion

Strip rotation in South Carolina, showing excellent barley after annual lespedeza.



[U.S.D.A. Photos]

TO see a great democracy in action is sometimes a troublesome spectacle. Ignorance, ideals, prejudice, competence and selfishness are inextricably intermingled in democratic action, and the result is unpredictable except by faith. Nevertheless, democracy is people governing themselves; and the mainspring of democratic action is belief in the dignity of the human being, in reason, and in the basic goodness of mankind. If it were otherwise, self-government would be impossible, because the intolerance and self-interest which are inherent in human nature would yield, instead, a Stalin, a Hitler, or a Mussolini.

It is important to remember this foundation of democratic outlook when we think of the soil and of agriculture. It is these that are the physical bases of democratic well-being, often unrecognized as such, but evident in the time of reckoning. This significance is not entirely due, however, to the importance of food: It is partly due to the fact that from the land come the people to replenish the cities, and the raw materials which the people of urban centres process and distribute; and also to a regenerative quality, which, emanating from the

soil, as it were, and stored up in the minds and hearts of the people who till it, supports and sustains democracy.

For all her dynamic energy and uninhibited display of wealth, her thoughtless exploitation of resources and her racial discrimination, the United States of America holds fast to this. The family farm is, so to speak, a sacred institution. It is being nourished and protected. The country, at least as far as Congress and the Administration are concerned, has accepted the principle that democratic belief and national well-being each call for a continuous policy of balancing the economy by full production in both farm and factory.

Since 1920 the tide has turned toward a definite and constructive farm policy. It took thirty years and a world war to bring home the fact that, after 1890, both the frontier and the free land were gone; and that somewhere in the process of exploiting the soil a considerable part of it had been abused. It required another nine years to agree on what should be done to stabilize agriculture; and then, as is common with first attempts, the venture into the field of farm policy failed.

The Federal Farm Board set up in 1929 had been supplied with half a billion dollars, and proposed to take care of troublesome "surpluses" through stabilization corporations operated by co-operative associations. Unfortunately this program failed, because the depression of the 'thirties—and the Smoot-Hawley Tariff Act of 1930—scared away foreign customers. The Board failed to sell enough of the products it had bought from farmers in an attempt to keep prices up. This ill-fated attempt was, however, in furtherance of the declared policy of Congress to place "the industry of agriculture . . . on a basis of economic equality with other industries," by minimizing speculation, cutting down waste and inefficiency in distribution, encouraging co-operative marketing associations and by preventing and controlling surpluses.

THE job was too big, and economic conditions too unbalanced, for the means provided. Meanwhile the situation grew worse instead of better. By 1933 drastic action was deemed necessary to stop the bankruptcy of farmers. Legislation was hastily drawn up, the purpose of which (Turn to page 42)

Henry A. Wallace, F.D.R.'s first Secretary of Agriculture, and sponsor of the old Triple-A.

This temporary Iowa corn crib illustrates the storage problem resulting from huge accumulations of storage products by the Commodity Credit Corporation.

Charles F. Brannan, Secretary of Agriculture in 1949, and sponsor of national farm income support.





"I've never lived on a farm," said Mr. Beelby, "But all my life I've wanted to."



The Dream and Mr. Beelby

By KATHERINE HOWARD

And of course, young Pete Winston's love of the land only intensified its effect

Illustrated by Robert Reck.

AT six-thirty o'clock on an evening in August, Tom Beelby opened the door of the small housekeeping room he rented in his sister Jane's rooming house, and set down on the chipped, white enamelled table, a bottle of milk, a loaf of bread, a jar of peanut butter and the evening paper.

Alfalfa, the blue-grey cat, with implicit faith in his knowledge of Mr. Beelby, made no attempt to move from the seat of the decrepit old chesterfield chair that appeared to have developed ringworm on its plush covered arms and back. He regarded Mr. Beelby with unblinking topaz eyes, as Mr. Beelby pulled up a dingy kitchen chair, stretched out his fifty-four-year-old legs in well-worn grey tweed trousers, and waved the paper triumphantly at Alfalfa.

"This is it, Alfalfa," said Mr. Beelby, his grey eyes dancing behind the thick lenses of the silver-rimmed spectacles he wore, "this is it!"

He went on, "Tomorrow we start looking for a farm. Then, when we find the place we want, off we go. No more city. No more this. After thirty years of keeping books, Alfalfa, I can hardly believe I'm getting what I've always wanted."

Alfalfa jumped down from the chair, trotted to the empty saucer under the stove, and mewed reproachfully.

"Okay," said Mr. Beelby. He got up, pushed in the cardboard top of the milk bottle, instead of lifting it carefully as usual, so that no milk would be wasted, and poured some milk into the saucer.

Then he took his small tea kettle, and was going out to fill it at the bathroom tap, when he heard a sound which made him stop and listen intently.

"That's someone crying," he said aloud. Alfalfa lifted his grey face, his long whiskers edged with milk giving him a strong resemblance to an old gentleman in a barber's chair, and stared at Mr. Beelby, then went on lapping daintily.

"There is someone crying," said Tom Beelby. "It's next door in Kathie's room. Now what's happened to make Kathie cry? Jane's probably been rubbing it in again. Saying that Kathie should never have married Bill; Bill should have a better job. That he

kids can help it! Wonder if I should go and see what's wrong?"

Brown-eyed, brown-haired Kathie was Mr. Beelby's niece, married two years ago to Bill Anderson, an ex-able-seaman.

She was the bright spot in Mr. Beelby's dull life. She had been sixteen, when he came, on the death of his wife, to live with his sister Jane, an embittered widow. Mr. Beelby's wife, Maud had been dead for six years.

"If Jane's been at the kid again, I'll give her a piece of my mind for interfering," muttered Mr. Beelby. "I'll just step in and see what's the matter."

Before he could carry out his intention, there was a timid knock at the door, the sound of which evidently carried to the next room, as the crying ceased.

"Come in," called Mr. Beelby. The door opened and in came a little boy about ten years old, with red hair and a freckled face. He pulled nervously at the blue and white striped cotton sweater he wore over blue overall pants, and Mr. Beelby tactfully began to set out the cracked dishes ready for supper, not looking at the boy as he said, "Well, son. What do you want this fine evening?"

"P-p-please . . . would you . . . would you mind? Our 'plane," gulped the little boy, "the one we made, I mean. . . . It fell off the window ledge. . . . It flopped down onto yours I guess. Could you . . . would you get it for me? I'm sorry to be a bother. But it's special. . . ."

"I suppose it was," Mr. Beelby nodded gravely. "What was it? A B29 or . . ."

"It was a Skyliner," said the boy, pushing a lock of red hair out of his hazel eyes, and looking eagerly up into Mr. Beelby's sympathetic face. "We made it

this afternoon, John and me . . . John and I, I mean. We just got it finished, and we were leaning out of the window, and down it went. It's on your window sill. We could see it."

"Good thing it landed there," said Mr. Beelby. "If it had fallen to the street, it would have crashed for sure."

He went to the window, unhooked the screen and retrieved the little balsa-wood 'plane.

"So you live in the room above me," he said. "I wondered who was making such a racket up there, this last day or two."

HE grinned at the little boy who grinned back happily, exposing a gap where several teeth should have been.

"It's awful, I know," said the little boy. "We try to be quiet. Mom's always telling us to, but it's terrible hard. We just came from the farm on Monday, and there's I and John and Pete. I mean Pete and John and me . . . I mean . . ."

"Don't worry about it," said Mr. Beelby. "I always had trouble with 'I' and 'Me,' myself." Then, as he handed the little model 'plane to the boy he said, "Did you say something about a farm?"

"Yes, we're selling the farm. We have to. Mom says we have to. Pete's too young to run the farm you see. He's only thirteen, and Mom says it's too much for her. It's four years since Daddy died. Mom says she can't manage any more. It's awful though. We can't help making a noise up there in two scratty little rooms."

His eyes, like a cocker spaniel's were big and mournful.

"Well, I should say you couldn't," said Mr. Beelby. Alfalfa mewed again, under the stove, indicating that his saucer was empty.

"Here, Alfalfa," said Mr. Beelby, filling the saucer again. The big, grey-blue cat lapped at the milk, rubbed himself against Mr. Beelby's grey trousers, and then jumped onto the moth-eaten old chair, where he proceeded to wash himself thoroughly.

"Alfalfa! That's a funny name for a cat. That's clover. Say!" He looked at Mr. Beelby, his eyes shining. "I bet you lived on a farm, didn't you?"

"No," said Mr. Beelby. "No, son. I never (Turn to page 50)



HANNAH BAILEY sighed at the mournful beauty of the November twilight. She had stood at the half-open door, watching the changing western sky, until now she could just distinguish the blurred outlines of barns against the horizon.

She should go in, she reminded herself sternly. It was ridiculous for a woman of her age to stand mooning at the sky so long.

And Myron Hastings would expect his supper at six o'clock. He was a punctual man. Set in his eating habits as he was in all his ways, she thought with mingled feelings of irritation and vague unhappiness.

She wondered a little ruefully at the impulse that had brought her to his house. It had seemed so right that day in the small general store her sister Minnie's husband managed at the Junction. She had been helping Bert when Myron had uttered his doleful complaint of being unable to find a housekeeper.

"No sense in buying good groceries when you spoil them by cooking," he had concluded gloomily.

She had agreed sympathetically. She liked the big, gentle-voiced farmer. Suddenly she had seen a way out of going back, year after year, to the grimy mill town where she taught the fourth grade.

Her sister had been dubious about her decision. "You'll work like a horse out there," she had said. "Myron is well-to-do, but his house is 30 years behind times. I don't think you'll like it."

But she had liked it, in spite of the hard work. And only her growing impatience with Myron's habit-bound nature was preventing her from being happy now. It didn't help much to know that her impatience with him was no disinterested thing. "For you might as well admit," she told herself wryly, "that Myron's being so set in his ways only bothers you because it will keep him from thinking of marrying again. And you're in love with him. That's all that ails you."

On the still air there came suddenly the clump, clump of booted feet approaching the house.

HANNAH hurried up the short stairs which led to the kitchen. In the lamp-lit room, she moved swiftly to the huge, black wood range. She took potatoes, hot from its cavernous oven.

They were on the table, stripped of their skins and laced with spreading rivulets of butter by the time the slow, methodical sounds of boots being unbuckled and removed had ceased.

The door opened and a man entered. He was a tall, thick-shouldered man of middle age, with a pleasant-featured face marked by year-round exposure to weather and long days of hard work.

He sniffed hungrily. "Smells mighty good, Hannah," he said. He waited until she moved so that he could make his way to the small black sink squeezed in beside the stove. He washed with deliberate thoroughness, taking care not to spatter on the crowding stove.

"Fine night," he observed.

"The sunset was beautiful," she said.

She poured strong, black tea while Myron eased himself comfortably into the familiar hollows of the chair that stood at his place.

A Hurdle of Habit

Nothing was so painful to Myron Hastings's mind as a new idea, and it may have been a tactical blunder on his part to hire a one-time school teacher for a housekeeper

by H. PATRICIA ROSS

"Yes, the sun did set good and clear," he said, as he filled his plate. "We should get a dry day tomorrow for getting in the rest of the corn. If I only had a real good man, we could do it easy. Charley ain't much of a hand for hard work, but he was all I could get last spring when I was hiring.

"Nope, you can't get a good tenant man any more," he went on, after swallowing his first mouthful. "They want high wages and a house fitted out like a palace."



He sniffed hungrily. "Smells mighty good, Hannah," he said.

"Most houses do have electricity nowadays," Hannah could not resist pointing out.

"Well, I certainly ain't going to put it in for my tenant man when I do without it myself. There ain't nothing better than light from a good clean lamp."

HANNAH suppressed the impatient arguments which crowded to her lips. For the subject of modern improvements would make Myron anxious-eyed and unhappily silent. And she relished the relaxed, almost intimate atmosphere of their evening meals too much to risk spoiling it.

Illustrated by J. H. Petrie

To change the subject, she said, "I don't know when I've eaten better potatoes than these. What do you call them?"

"Irish Cobblers," said Myron promptly, looking pleased. "Always raise them."

"I hope you like them baked," said Hannah, trying to recall whether he had ever expressed a preference.

"Thought these were baked. Got a different flavor than when they're boiled. Yes, I like them fine." He chewed reflectively, and then said, "Sara always had them fried at night. Can't remember a night when she didn't."

Sara had been his wife, dead now for three years, and as far as Hannah could judge from his frequent references to her, whatever iron-clad habits he had not developed himself, Sara had developed for him.

She said slowly, "I could fry your potatoes for you every night if you'd like."

"Well, now that I think of it, I don't know that I would," he answered after a moment's serious deliberation. "It don't hurt a man to eat baked potatoes once in a while."

Hannah felt a glow of pleasure at this magnificent concession to change. She could not remember his having made another in the five months she had lived in his house.

As she washed up the dishes in the cramped, ill-lighted sink, her thoughts were only of Myron's deep-rooted distaste for change in any form. She wished foolishly that she could shake it out of him, as she might once have shaken stubbornness out of a hopeless, naughty little boy.

WHEN she had finished, she came to sit at the table where Myron was reading the county seat *Express*. He would finish the paper and then read one of his farm magazines for half an hour. No more, no less.

She had sat there motionless for perhaps five minutes when Myron looked up in mild surprise. "You aren't reading tonight," he observed.

"I finished my book this afternoon," she said bleakly.

He cleared his throat uneasily. "Sara always got out her fancywork after her supper work was done," he said in a faintly suggestive tone. Since he was obviously disturbed by her inactivity, she rummaged in the mending basket for something to do. She found nothing not slated for discard. Finally she began darning a hopeless hole in one of Myron's socks.

At eight o'clock Myron folded his paper and picked up his farm magazine. At 8:30, he laid it on the stack from which he had taken it.

Hannah's lips were compressed as he said, "Well, maybe I'd better see if the stock is bedded down proper for the night." As if it were a spontaneous idea, she thought with an inward snort. As if he didn't say the same thing every evening at half-past eight.

He put on his outdoor clothes. The shapeless felt hat first, then the plaid mackinaw, and last, the heavy woollen mittens. It was the order in which he invariably put on those articles of clothing.

Hannah was still trying to darn the worn-out sock when Myron returned from the barn.

"Seems like an apple ought to taste good about now," he said, with

(Turn to page 70)

Paratroopers.

in

the

Peace



Top right: Princess Pats in their Dakota transport just before bailing out. Bottom left: Airborne infantry rushing to the attack as their glider comes to a stop.

Photos by courtesy National Defence Headquarters.

LAST July Canada's military chiefs did a little peering into the future. The opening gambit in every military campaign is always full of unpleasant and sometimes crippling surprises for victims of aggression. Under certain circumstances Canada could be attacked from the northwest by fast moving airborne forces. Against such a threat what should Canadian defence forces do, and how well are they prepared to do it?

The best way to find the answers, they concluded, is to go through the motions in a mock battle, or using the polite military terminology of the day, in an "exercise," which for purposes of record became "Exercise Eagle." We will imagine, they said in effect, that international relations at this very moment are deteriorating rapidly. It begins to look as though peaceful measures for breaking the tension may not be found.

Accordingly Major General M. S. Penhale, and Air Vice Marshal H. Campbell, chiefs at Northwest Command, Edmonton, issued orders for the concentration of a small defence force at Grande Prairie by August 10. Obviously, an enemy enter-

ing Canada through territory controlled by them would make an attempt to seize air fields along the Alaska Highway and would be anxious to safeguard the bridges on which he would have to depend in order to maintain his force. Grande Prairie would then become a focal point for the defence.

Giving full rein to their imaginations the army chiefs informed the local commanders on August 2, when their concentration at Grande Prairie was only nicely beginning, that the potential enemy had struck without notice. He had already attacked and captured Fort St. John air field by an airborne assault force, and that Fort St. John itself had been overrun and was now under enemy control!

Building up their fictitious attack further the army chiefs said that a mobile enemy column had moved down the Alaska Highway, and had reached the Dawson Creek area where they had inflicted severe casualties on the Royal Canadian Army Signal detachment which had resisted until completely overcome. Additional reports, the inventors of this fine-spun yarn asserted, revealed that communications on the Northern Alberta railways be-

tween Grande Prairie and Dawson Creek had been cut at several places by the phantom enemy.

FACED with the first moves in a war without declaration, General Penhale decided to take immediate steps without waiting to complete the concentration planned for August 10 at Grande Prairie. His plan of action was to strike at dawn with the Princess Patricia's Paratroop regiment on August 6, plus whatever air support was necessary.

Getting away, for a moment, from the atmosphere of make-believe, the military authorities gathered together at Fort St. John on August 5 a number of technical observers, Canadian and American, plus a group of press representatives and large number of officers of the active and reserve Canadian army. For the latter it was no holiday in the wilds. They had been actively engaged in technical war schemes, and they were now to see in action tactical methods on which their own schemes rested.

But the visitors at the St. John R.C.A.F. station were just as keen as the men (Turn to page 28)



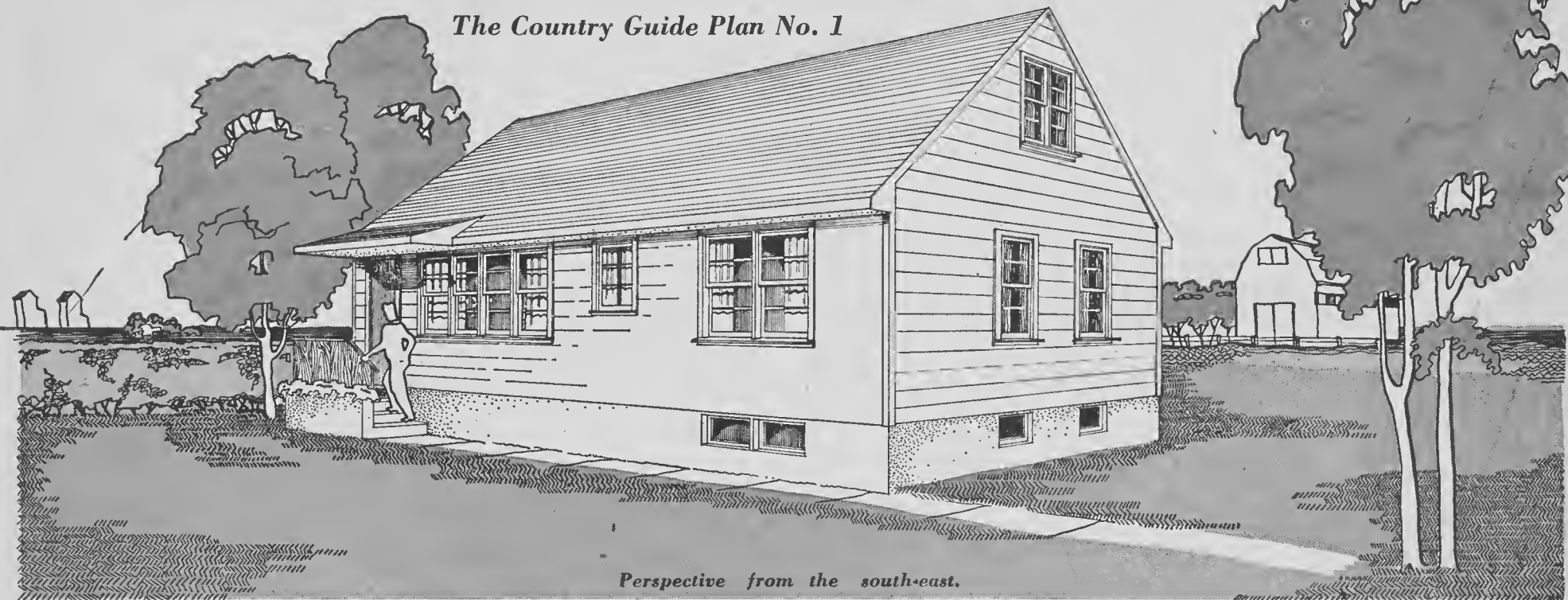
A little exercise of the imagination by Canada's military leaders poses for a western farm community some of the problems which might arise in certain eventualities

by C. D. LA NAUZE

Left: The airborne force consolidates on its objective, overlooking the strategically important bridge.

An Economy Farm House

The Country Guide Plan No. 1



Perspective from the south-east.

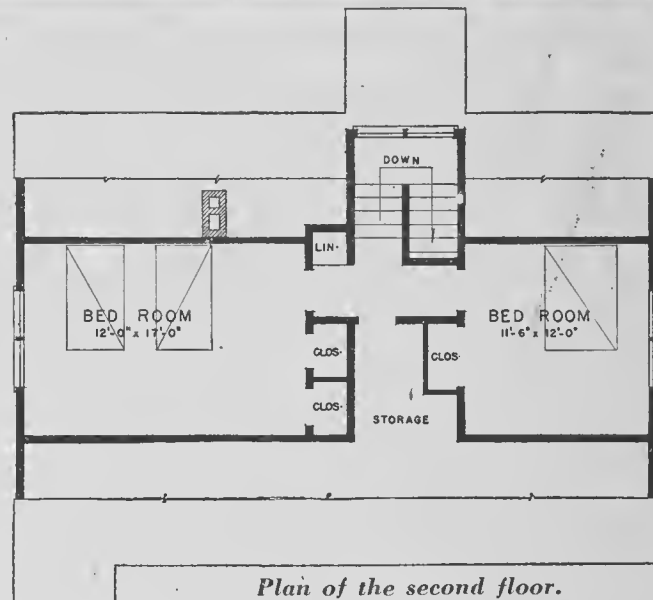
THERE has never been a time in the history of western Canada when interest in farm home building was as keen, or as widespread, as it is today. It is customary to attribute this increased interest to release from the wartime restrictions on building, and to the relative prosperity of the post-war years. These play an important part, but there are other factors as well. Among these are: (1) the fact that many farm homes presently in use were built during the early years of settlement and are due for replacement; (2) an increasing realization that farm young people today are demanding home conditions and surroundings which their parents were content to do without; and (3) the need for more of the amenities of good living on the farm, for both young and old, in keeping with the changed conditions created by the automobile, the radio, the telephone and rural electrification.

For all of these reasons The Country Guide has deemed it a desirable service to its subscribers and readers to publish a series of original farm house plans, designed especially for western Canadian farm conditions. Each plan offered will be designed by Edwin Raines, Executive Director, Research Planning Centre, University of Manitoba, and will follow the principles of modern farmhouse planning approved by the Committee on Prairie Rural Housing. Each plan will also be scrutinized and approved before publication by a committee of persons familiar with western farm background. The series is not intended in any way to compete with the house plan service offered through the Prairie Rural Housing Committee, but is offered rather as an amplification of that service, in the hope that a still wider field of choice for the prospective builder will lead to more and more modern, livable homes designed for utility and the comfort of farm folk. No definite number of plans has been fixed for this series. The actual number published will depend primarily on the response from readers and whether the service appears to be filling a real need. Further plans will, however, be featured in the issues of January, February and March, 1950.

Features of the plan

*Dining space in the kitchen.
Two upstairs bedrooms and bath.
Convenient work areas and traffic lanes.
The "new look" at no extra expense.
Good-size closets in each bedroom.
Moderate-cost living unit, expandable later.
Work and storage space in utility room.*

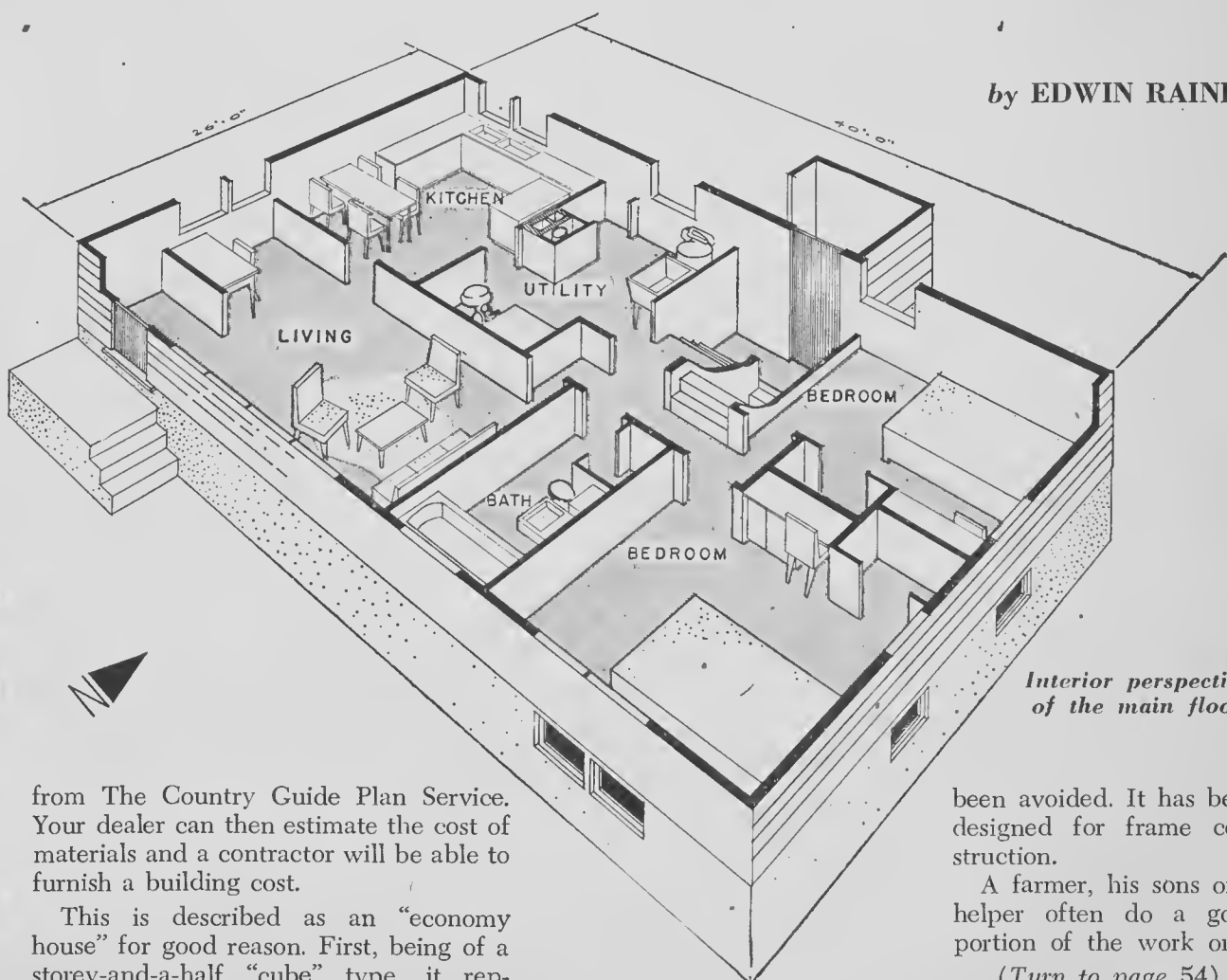
THIS month a farm house design, offered as The Country Guide Plan No. 1, is introduced to readers of this magazine. It presents a storey-and-a-half dwelling with over-all dimensions 26'-0" x 40'-0", well suited to family needs, comfort and convenience. If you have been looking for a compact design, differing from the popular one-storey bungalow, this one has many features which should appeal to you. From the architect's sketch and actual floor plans, shown on this page, you can readily discover these for yourself. Others will be pointed out. If you are really interested in having a house of that design built, you may secure a complete set of working drawings and a bill of materials



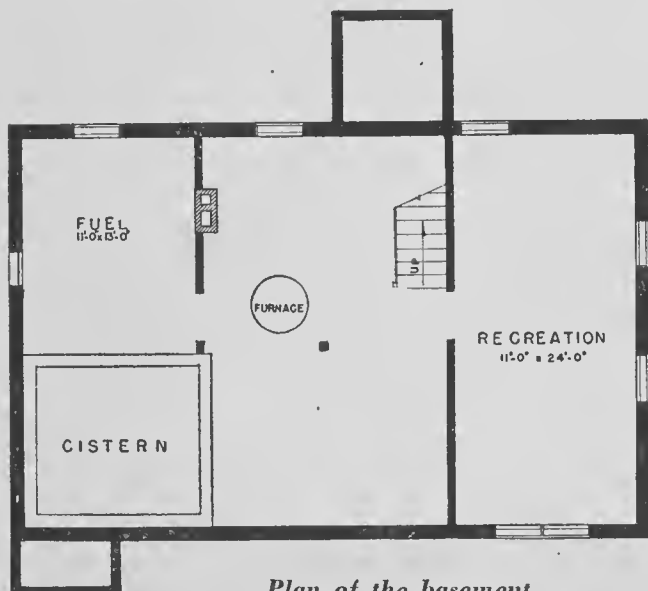
Plan of the second floor.

resents economy in construction and heating. All projections have been eliminated except for one dormer, which is necessary to provide head room on the stair landing, and a canopy over the front door. All complicated construction details have

by EDWIN RAINES



Interior perspective of the main floor.



Plan of the basement.

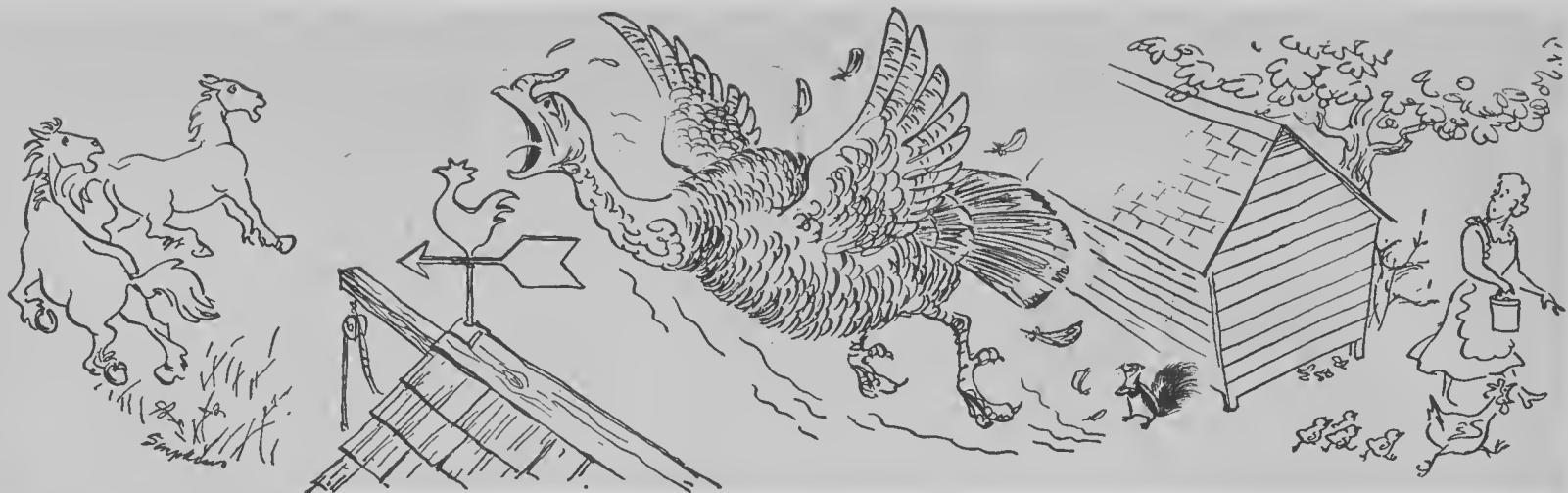
from The Country Guide Plan Service. Your dealer can then estimate the cost of materials and a contractor will be able to furnish a building cost.

This is described as an "economy house" for good reason. First, being of a storey-and-a-half "cube" type, it rep-

been avoided. It has been designed for frame construction.

A farmer, his sons or a helper often do a good portion of the work on a
(Turn to page 54)

Our Pet



Skunks

Up at the house a half mile away, the farmer's oldest boy said, "Phew! Tip and Ted have sure been giving those skunks fits again!"

THREE days and nights of hunger, loneliness and bewilderment passed for the skunk babies in their underground nest. Weakness was overwhelming their tiny bodies, but still the will to live was strong in them. Surely some Spirit of Survival prompted them to leave the den which was about to become their grave, for on wobbly legs they at last crawled to the sunny bank a foot from their door. There they lay, panting and mewling pitifully, fully exposed to any enemy that might pass by, helpless to defend themselves from any harm.

The farmer's wife, hunting the nest of the old turkey hen with the red rag on her leg, came on them as they sprawled there, hardly conscious. Quickly she knelt beside them, and her eyes immediately told her the whole story. Tenderly she gathered them into her apron. Seven black and white babies no bigger than a good big mouse! Seven helpless, starving orphans! Seven! Why, she had seven sons and daughters of her own. As she started home she passed the body of the mother skunk, and she stopped long enough to lift it and slide it gently down the hole under the old spruce tree. Then she tied her kerchief to one of the tree's lower limbs so the boys could easily find the spot when she sent them with shovels to fill the grave.

The problem in the woman's mind as she carried the kittens home was, what to do with them. How to feed them, how to keep them warm, how to protect them from the cats, and above all from those two savage, skunk-killing dogs?

She arrived home with these problems still unsolved, but fate solved them for her in one moment. She laid the apron containing the skunks on the kitchen doorstep. A lean, grey house cat, recently bereaved of her new-born kittens, sprang into the midst of them, caught one expertly by the loose skin on the back of its neck, and ran with it to her nest box at the south side of the chicken house.

In a flash she was back and took a second one, then another and another and another, until at last she had all seven safely tucked in. Then she crept in, carefully arranged herself in a half curl around them and in a moment they were filling those hungry little stomachs with rich, warm milk. With kneading paws and milky chins they fed to the sound of their new mother's contented purrs, then fell asleep, still nursing.

The good farmer and his wife and his round-eyed children stood and looked and looked.

The old grey cat meowed anxiously. "It's all right," the farmer said, "they're safe, old girl. You can have them. Tip and Ted killed their parents. I guess it's up to us to provide them a new mother." So she sighed and settled herself softly and more completely around her seven new skunkie babies.

Her peace and contentment didn't last long. Next day the Malty cat from the barn, mother of five two-week old kittens, came to investigate this nest of black and white changelings. She looked them over and apparently decided that though they were smaller than hers, they were somehow better. Back she went to her nest in the hayloft and returned with a kitten. Dropping it into the nest box, she took in its place one skunk baby. Presently she was back again, only to meet the house cat coming to meet her with her kitten in her mouth, returning it and demanding in harsh cat language that skunk baby be given back to her at once. Bitter quarreling went on between them for two days until finally house cat settled down with four skunk kittens and two barn kittens. Malty had three skunk kittens and three of her own kittens.

Their mothers fed, washed and spanked them impartially. Before long the skunks showed a strong inclination to join forces against the kittens and they whipped them outrageously in every wrestling or boxing match, which, though it began in fun ended in fury.

WHEN they were several weeks old, the mothers would go to the field and return with a gopher which they would lay proudly in front of their mixed broods. Seemingly by some secret agreement the skunks would sit back and let the kittens begin. Then they would rush upon them like little tigers, whip them back into a corner, and devour with grunts and snarls and savage slashes the better parts of the gopher. When they retired with a look in their foster brothers' direction that seemed to say, "Now you may have what's left," all that was left was a disgusting litter of gnawed bones and tough scraps of fur.

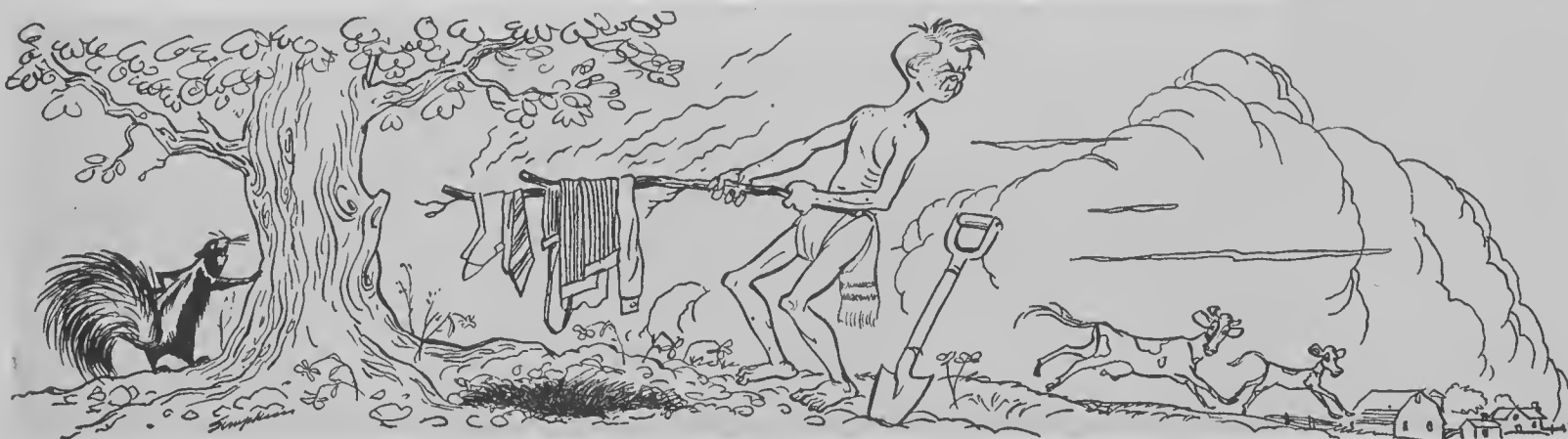
One skunk kitten showed himself more gentle and loving and docile than the others right from the first. He loved to lie in someone's lap and be stroked and petted and

(Turn to page 39)

A true story by
F. FLEMING

About an unconventional litter of wood pussies which spread merriment and consternation in equal measure

Illustrations by
Jas. Simpkins



POTATO PIONEERS



Above: The two-row digger moves slowly, leaving partially dried potatoes on ground.

Circle: Pickers, both men and women, work in teams to handle tubers more carefully.



Above: Thorough disinfection of the digger takes only a few minutes with a spray of copper sulphate solution from the pump of the weed sprayer. A. A. Kroeker does the work.

Lower: A lush growth of tops seems to disappear after the roto-beater has covered the field which is left for digging until the skins have toughened up.

Why grow 80-bushel potatoes when good seed, free from disease, will yield 300? Why buy seed corn when it can be grown more cheaply? — Kroeker discovered both answers

pressed by the thoroughness-of the methods used that he immediately placed an order for a carload of seed which was subsequently sold in small packages all over Canada.

IN 1937 Kroeker received three bags of corn seed from a cannery in British Columbia. They asked him to plant the three varieties in separate fields and to send them all the produce as shelled corn when the harvest was taken off. The price was agreed upon. Growing conditions were good in '37 and when the harvest was over and the bags of corn ready for shipment, the yield was in excess of 40,000 pounds. It was inspected three times during the summer and was found to be pure and of high quality—the first really successful large-scale venture in seed corn production in western Canada. It was now established that it could be done and that the growing season was not too short, even for seed. Production increased until over half of the Canadian requirement for sweet corn seed was grown on this Western farm by 1941.

In the meantime, Kroeker's pioneer spirit was enquiring into other possible uses for his sandy loam soil on the shore of old Lake Agassiz. About 1932, the local agricultural representative had mentioned to him that grocery stores could sell high quality table potatoes at a premium. He talked the matter over with J. J. Siemens, a mainspring in the co-operative movement in the Altona district. They went south of the border to look over the methods used in potato areas of Minnesota and North Dakota and brought a load of 150 bushels of certified Irish Cobbler seed back with them. (Turn to page 46)

IN 1876, a small group of immigrants arrived at Emerson on the Red River, nearing the end of their long journey from Russia. Anyone who had ten dollars for a homestead was considered to be well off and free from worries since he could immediately take up land. Among the group was a young couple not so fortunate, Abraham Kroeker and his bride, who were unable to raise the necessary ten dollars. Kroeker took a job as a hired hand at 50 cents a day. Out of it he kept his wife and managed to save the ten dollars which was immediately put into a homestead—later the townsite of Winkler, Manitoba.

One of the eleven children of the pioneer Kroeker family took up farming south and east of the homestead. On this farm the pioneer spirit is still in the blood and new ventures are most welcome. They don't just take a shot in the dark though; a lot of study and planning goes into the setting up of new enterprises. One example is the corn business which was first considered in 1929. One morning Dr. Haney, of the Morden Experimental Farm was talking to A. A. Kroeker on the 'phone. "You know," he said, "I don't think it's the spring frosts that would hurt corn so much in this country, it's the fall frost. If we had the seed in early enough, I think our growing season would be long enough in most years."

Kroeker did some thinking and some studying the following winter and he and his son Walter decided to try a field of corn in the spring of 1930. They managed to get some seed from the States and planted 40 acres on some well-worked land. They couldn't afford the proper machinery but used a single-row cultivator and kept the weeds down between the rows. The rest of the work was done by hand. The summer was a dry one and feed sup-

plies around Winkler were very scanty. The corn crop was not good but gave them 1,500 bushels of dry shelled corn plus a few loads of corn stalks which neighbors were only too glad to buy for feed.

Seed corn was expensive but had to be handled carefully. Kroeker studied the problem of handling and drying and put it to the test in the second year. The method was laborious—hanging each cob separately to let it dry, but 200 bushels of seed were produced. To cut down on labor costs, Kroeker took a trip through the corn belt of the United States with W. J. Breakey of the Morden Farm. Breakey had seen the driers used down there, so after looking them over from labor efficiency and quality seed points of view, he helped the Kroekers design their first one on much the same principles. The driers made curing a lot simpler and resulted in a quantity of seed being made available the next year.

There was considerable sales resistance to seed corn grown in Manitoba as buyers thought it would not be properly developed and cured. One seed representative came out to the farm to see the harvest and was so im-

The condition of stored potatoes is always good because of controlled temperature and circulation of air in this underground house.

by R. G. MARTIN



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Part of a 40-acre field of Certified Netted Gem potatoes, running about 15 tons per acre, on Meadowcrest Farm, near Cloverdale, B.C., owned by Henry Bose and Sons, and farmed by Henry Bose since he cleared the land in the '90's.

U.S. Farm Bill Passes

THE U.S. Congress finally passed, after two or three failures to reach agreement between the House and the Senate, the 1949 Agricultural Act.

The new act, which leans strongly toward a continuation of high price supports, guarantees 90 per cent of parity for the 1950 basic crops — wheat, corn, cotton, rice, peanuts and tobacco. It places the responsibility for supporting all non-basic crops on the Secretary of Agriculture at not more than 90 per cent of parity.

Under the discretionary provisions of the legislation, hogs, chickens, eggs, oil seed crops and coarse grains may be supported at the discretion of the Secretary of Agriculture only to the extent that funds are available, and provided that such support is considered necessary to the national economy.

The bill provides two parity formulas, one, the customary parity price formula based on the 1910-14 period, and the other or modernized formula first contained in the Agricultural Act of 1948 and modified this year by the Anderson Bill considered by the Senate. This second formula is based on a longer and more recent period and provides for a sliding scale of price supports. Only the basic commodities may benefit from the whole 90 per cent of parity based on 1910-1914. The details of the bill are many and various and of little direct concern to the Canadian farmer. In any case it is certain that farm policy will again be under vigorous discussion in 1950 and that the Brannan Plan, so called, will almost certainly hold the spotlight again.

Wheat Agreement

FROM August 1, the beginning of the International Wheat Agreement year, to October 14 inclusive, the five exporting countries (Australia, Canada, France, United States and Uruguay), which have signed the International Wheat Agreement, had sold 28,566,138 bushels of wheat to the 28 importing countries which had so far ratified the Agreement. Of this amount Canada had sold 17,380,809 bushels.

The amount recorded at that date as sold by the United States under the Agreement was 9,185,329 bushels. By October 20 this figure had increased to 11,967,708 bushels. Australia had

sold 2,000,000 bushels. The amount sold by the United States was considered to be a very small portion of her allotment of 168,069,635 bushels, but sales of U.S. wheat to Marshall-Plan European countries have been held up to a considerable extent pending a decision by Congress as to which U.S. government agency would provide the money necessary to meet the special wheat subsidy.

Canada's guaranteed quantity under the International Agreement is the largest of any exporting country at 203,069,635 bushels, of which 17,000,000 is a very small portion. The latter figure, however, does not take into account the 140,000,000 bushels which Canada will supply to the United Kingdom under the Canada-United Kingdom Wheat Agreement. Similarly, the United States allotment of 168,000,000 bushels does not take into account the 100-odd million bushels which that country will supply to areas throughout the world under military government and requiring food relief.

Sued For Soil Misuse

IT has been the law in Britain for a long time that if a tenant damages a rented farm he can be sued and will have to pay for the damage that he has done. This procedure has recently made its appearance on this continent for the first time.

A farmer in Iowa rented a farm for a cash rent of 11 dollars an acre. Under the lease he was under obligation to "break up and improve as much waste land as possible, as may be in condition to plow, but not to plow pasture or hay land without consent of the landlord."

A 15-acre field had been in a mixture of timothy and clover but the clover killed out. The tenant requested permission to plow the field, but this permission was refused. However, he went ahead and plowed it up and put it into corn. As a result of the cover being gone, soil was lost, and the landlord sued the tenant.

Experimental tests on the Federal Soil Conservation farm in southwestern Iowa had revealed that on similar soil of the same slope the same procedure had led to a loss of 20 to 30 tons of topsoil per acre. A loss of five tons is enough to cause irreparable damage. Silt in the grassland below the rented field permitted an estimate of a loss at least as great as this.

The jury decided that the farm was worth \$300 less as a result of the erosion, and so awarded damages to this amount—equal to \$20 an acre for the field affected. They also assessed \$200 exemplary damages against the tenant as punishment for a wilful act in damaging the farm.

The decision handed down in Iowa is having some impact on the wording of rental agreements. This suit could be the forerunner of more to come.

Livestock Numbers Decrease

ALTHOUGH numbers of hogs on farms in Canada increased from June 1, 1948 to June 1, 1949 the numbers of cattle, horses and sheep decreased. The Dominion Bureau of Statistics estimated that on June 1, 1949 there were 9,081,000 cattle on farms compared with 9,476,000 a year before. Horses also declined in numbers. The figure for 1949 was 1,796,200 compared with 1,904,000 for the same date in 1948. On June 1, 1949, there were 2,075,400 sheep on Canadian farms, a decline from the 1948 figure of 2,246,800 head.

The greatest percentage decline in cattle numbers was recorded in Saskatchewan, though there was some decline in all provinces with the exception of Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia. The total decrease of all cattle in Canada amounted to 4.2 per cent. The decrease in dairy cattle amounted to only 2.2 per cent. Horse numbers declined in all provinces and sheep numbers declined in all provinces with the exception of Prince Edward Island.



N. E. Dodd, Director-General of F.A.O., who addressed the annual meeting of Manitoba Pool Elevators Ltd., Winnipeg, in late October.

White Flour Enrichment

IT is becoming an increasing practice among U.S. millers to enrich white flour by the addition of minerals and vitamins, with a view to restoring some of the original qualities of the wheat berry, without losing the sale quality of white flour as compared with whole wheat flour, or its modified forms.

U.S. Department of Agriculture records no enrichment of flour for the thirty years prior to 1940. In 1941, 20 per cent of the flour manufactured in the United States was estimated to have been enriched with iron, thiamin and niacin, to levels established by the U. S. Food and Drug Administration in that year. By 1942, enrichment was applied to 50 per cent of the flour and by 1943 to 65 per cent. In the latter year 75 per cent of the enriched flour was enriched in the same manner as in 1941, and the other quarter was

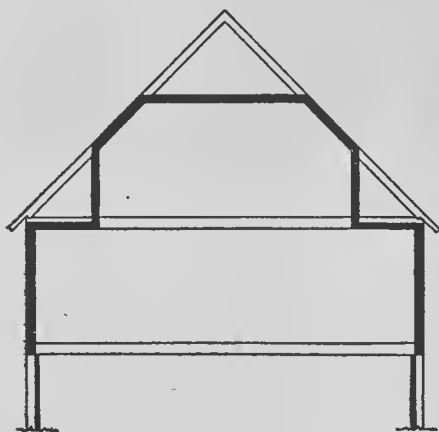
Farm Service Facts

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SOME STEPS IN MAKING THE HOME READY FOR WINTER

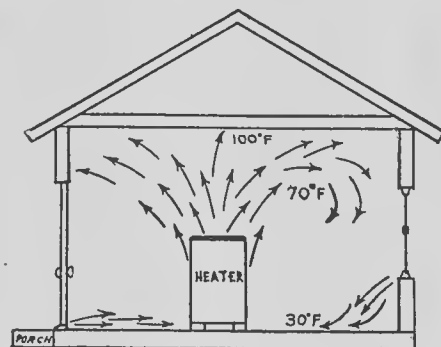


For insulation to be fully effective, all walls and ceilings which separate occupied rooms from unoccupied cold areas or the outside should be insulated.

Tests with typical two-storey five-room insulated frame houses with storm windows and weatherstripping around all doors and windows show that insulation can cut fuel costs more than in half. Average cost of coal per house for winter heating, when the tests were made was \$187 when these houses were not insulated and \$80 when insulated with 2½ inches of rockwool, or its equivalent, on walls and ceiling.

It is important to insulate all walls and ceilings which separate occupied rooms from unoccupied cold areas or the outside. Due to the difficulty in using suitable vapor barriers in many existing homes, it is important to choose an insulating material which will not absorb moisture to any large extent. It is important also that the material does not attract insects and that it is resistant to fire.

WEATHER STRIPPING AND STORM WINDOWS SAVE HEAT



Cold air outlets are more effective when located at the source of cold air, e.g. beneath windows, cold walls or near outside doors.

A large amount of heat can be lost by air infiltration through loose fitting windows and doors, sagging floors and base boards. The greater the draft through these openings the more difficult it will be to obtain proper circulation of warm air. An eighth of an inch air leak around a door is about the equivalent of an opening four inches square.

Weather stripping around all doors and windows and installation of storm windows will save

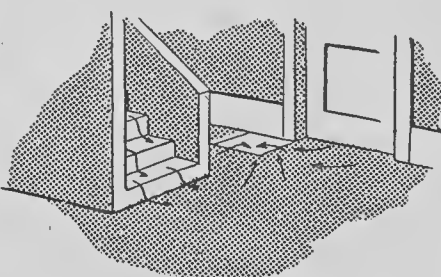
from 25 to more than 50 percent of the total heat loss, and give you more uniform heat.

VENTILATION WILL STOP CONDENSATION IN ATTICS

Some householders in colder climates have trouble with frost accumulating on the underside of the roof and water dripping down on the ceiling when it melts. This condensation is of water vapor that passes through the ceiling and meets freezing temperatures before it can pass through the roof.

This trouble may be overcome by making openings for natural ventilation on each gable to permit air circulation through attic spaces. An opening of 1 square inch for each 4 square feet of ceiling in each gable is usually sufficient.

COLD AIR OUTLETS HELP TO DISTRIBUTE THE HEAT



Storm windows and weatherstripping prevent entry of cold air which makes drafts and low floor temperatures.

If you are not obtaining full efficiency from your hot air heating system, the trouble may be due to lack of cold air outlets. Each heated room downstairs should have a cold air return grille and duct back to the bottom of the furnace casing. It should be located approximately opposite the warm air register, close to the outside walls, windows and doors to pick up the cold air. In upstairs rooms it is sufficient to allow the cold air to return down stairway to be picked up by a large register at the foot of the stairs.

SOME FACTORS TO CHECK FOR EFFECTIVE INSULATION

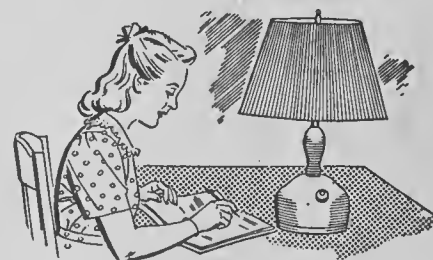
Damp insulation does not have as good insulating value as dry, and some materials will decay and deteriorate under such conditions. This moisture comes from water vapor that is ever present in the air. It passes through most ordinary wall constructions from the warm to the cold side and it condenses to moisture when it strikes the cold outside wall.

Because of this water vapor, in new construction a vapor barrier is used to prevent passage from the inside of the house to the insulation. The barrier consists of a layer of waxed or asphalt-impregnated paper, placed on the inside face of the studs directly underneath the inside sheathing. Most insulation of the batt or quilt type has a waxed paper on one side. It is important that the waxed paper be placed on the warm side of the wall or ceiling.

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efficient John Deere cyclonic-fuel-intake type is optional—you can choose either, depending upon the power you need and the fuel you use. Improved hydraulic Powr-Trol provides effortless, accurate control of drawn equipment at a touch of your hand. Regular equipment includes such extra values as self-starter and lights, Powr-Trol, power shaft, belt pulley.

Your John Deere dealer is eager to tell you all about this new, good-looking tractor. See him soon.

The Trademark of Quality



Made Famous by Good Implements

YESTERDAY . . . a newcomer
TODAY . . . Leader of the Heavyweights

that's the John Deere DIESEL . . .



Big daily capacity is yours with the powerful Model "R" Diesel. Here it is pulling a 5-bottom John Deere Truss-Frame Plow.

SINCE its introduction just a few months ago, the husky John Deere Model "R" Diesel has become the most-wanted tractor in its field. And no wonder. For it has all the advantages that large-acreage farmers want—more lugging power to handle big-capacity equipment in tough conditions . . . new speed that cuts days off the working calendar . . . greater economy on fuel and maintenance . . . and extreme ease of starting, steering, and handling that is nothing short of amazing for a 4-5-pow tractor.

The John Deere Model "R" is the only tractor that offers you the roadability, speed, and lower first cost of a wheel-type . . . the fuel economy of a Diesel . . . and the greater dependability, lower maintenance costs and longer life of exclusive John Deere two-cylinder engine design—a design unequalled for simplicity and strength of parts, a design that has been proved in the field on hundreds of thousands of John Deere Tractors.

If you're a big-power user, it will pay you real dividends to get acquainted with this new leader of the heavyweights. See your John Deere dealer or write John Deere, Moline, Illinois, for free literature.

JOHN DEERE
two-cylinder
TRACTORS

FIRST IN MODERN DESIGN AND PROVED PERFORMANCE

enriched with iron, thiamin, riboflavin and niacin. By 1944-45, 65 per cent of U.S. flour had been enriched with all four additions and this situation continued pretty well to the end of 1947-48. In the year 1946, 65 per cent of flour was enriched in this manner, 17.5 per cent was not enriched and another 17.5 per cent was not enriched but was milled from wheat at a higher extraction rate.

Farm Costs Still Rising

THE composite price index of commodities and services used by farmers, inclusive of living costs, rose from 191.1 in April of this year to 192.3 for August. In August 1948 the index was 190.1. The rise in costs was partly traceable to seasonally higher labor costs—higher pay for harvesting. It was also partly due to a rise in living costs.

At the same time costs were going up, the commodities that farmers have to sell were registering some losses. The index of goods that farmers sell was 263.9 in August 1948. By August of this year it had slipped to 253.2.

All of these figures are based on 1935-39 equalling 100.

Milk Factory Of Europe

THE three-and-a-quarter million acres of excellent grassland in the Netherlands supports 2,817,314 head of cattle, of which 1,566,281 are producing dairy cows. In most of the cattle projects meat production is only a side line. Before the war the annual milk production was approximately five million metric tons (2,204 pounds), and the average yearly production per animal was 396 gallons.

The cattle consist chiefly of three breeds. Seventy per cent are the black-and-white Dutch-Friesian, 25 per cent consist of the red-and-white Meuse-Rhine-Yssel breed, and five per cent are the black, white-headed, Groningen breed.

A number of factors have contributed to the building up of the Netherlands herds. Breeders and government have co-operated in a program of milk recording and animal selection to improve the breeds. Soil and climate are both very well suited to cattle production.

George E. Day

THE death of Professor George E. Day, Guelph, Ontario, was reported last month. To many hundreds of one-time students at the Ontario Agricultural College at Guelph whom he taught over a long period, and to the thousands of breeders of Shorthorn cattle from one end of Canada to the other, as well as to a host of other persons associated with the Canadian and United States livestock industries the news would be received with much regret.

More than thirty years ago Professor Day, as he continued to be known to the day of his death, left the Ontario Agricultural College and became secretary of the Dominion Shorthorn Breeders' Association. During the following years, until his retirement from that position just a few years ago, he travelled widely throughout Canada in the interests of Shorthorn cattle.

It can be truly said of the late Professor Day that he was outstanding in his field as a teacher, pre-eminent as a judge of livestock, respected by those who knew him, invariably liked by those who met him casually and venerated by his students.

Get It At A Glance

A collection of items you will enjoy reading

CANADA'S 1949 wheat crop is expected to grade about 20 per cent No. 1 Northern, about 50 per cent No. 2 Northern and about 15 per cent No. 3 Northern, with a very small percentage tough and damp. Average protein is 13.4 per cent and there will be little to choose between the top three northern grades. The report of the Grain Research Laboratory operated under the Board of Grain Commissioners for Canada comments that "it is seldom that two succeeding crops have such close all-round qualities."

BRITAIN has signed a contract with Soviet Russia to purchase one million tons of coarse grains. The contract came into effect September 1 and involves 500,000 tons of barley, 400,000 tons of maize (corn) and 100,000 tons of oats.

THE Royal Agricultural Winter Fair, which runs from November 15-23 this year, is held on the grounds of the Canadian Exhibition in a special building erected for this purpose many years ago. It will accommodate 12,088 horses, 2,200 cattle, 1,200 sheep, 1,000 swine, 8,000 poultry and other exhibits, in addition to large amounts of space for judging rings and an extensive flower show. Stabling for the horse show proper is found on two floors and includes 498 open stalls and 680 box stalls.

SINCE the world's population is estimated to be increasing at the rate of about 20 million people per year, it is also calculated that the total world production of food will have to be doubled within the next twenty-five years in order to meet the requirements of this increasing population.

DURING the first nine months of 1949, 51,675,000 pounds of margarine were manufactured in Canada.

THE annual Feeder and Stocker Sale, held on Manitoulin Island in Ontario, this year disposed of 88 carloads, or 2,696 head of market cattle, for a total value of \$368,822. Top selling carload consisted of 24 roan steers weighing 23,470 pounds (978 pounds each) which at \$21.50 per hundred pounds brought \$5,046.05. Five loads of cattle went to Pennsylvania, one load to New York State and the remainder to Ontario feeders.

THE index number of farm prices in Canada for agricultural products, which stood at 252.5 in 1948, averaged 253 for the first eight months of 1949. Beginning the year at 257.5 for January, it dropped to 250.7 for April and for May; rose to 254.5 in June. D.B.S. says that "compared with a year ago August prices were lower for grain, dairy products and potatoes, relatively unchanged for livestock and slightly higher for poultry and eggs."

OUT of 11 billion acres estimated as climatically suited to crop growth throughout the world, only between three and four billion acres are now in use agriculturally, according to Sir John Russell.

AS reported by The Farmer and Stock-breeder, Professor M. M. Cooper, a New Zealander now at Wye College, Kent, believes the prices of most animal products produced in Britain are far too high in relation to those obtained in the exporting countries. His comparison was 29 shillings per live cwt. for New Zealand animals of a quality for which British producers get 105 shillings 6 pence. "The more one sees of British agriculture, the more one realizes that it is only at half cock," he said.

THE Council of Canadian Meat Packers reports that "it now requires something better than 200 million pounds of carcass meat, edible by-products and fats more than it did four years ago, to satisfy domestic demands."

THE monthly labor income of all the Canadian people combined has been running at something better than 600 million dollars per month since June 1948. Labor income includes wages and salaries, bonuses, commissions, and all other employers' expenditures in cash or kind, which may be regarded as compensation for the services of employees.

THE first international meeting of rural co-operatives sponsored by FAO was held at Lucknow, India, from October 24 to November 3. Countries invited to send representatives were FAO member countries in Asia and the Far East. The purpose of the conference was to develop discussion among experts in the co-operative field on the problems of and developments in this field. Next year a similar meeting will probably be held in the Near East.

CANADA'S 1949 honey crop is estimated at 31,286,000 pounds for an average production of 63 pounds per colony. This average is about two-thirds of the 1935-39 years and the same as in the years 1945 and 1947. Beekeepers are estimated to number 25,490 and the total number of colonies they operate is 496,150. During the last three seasons the number of beekeepers in British Columbia has remained fairly constant, but in Manitoba there has been a decrease from 4,500 to 2,350, in Saskatchewan from 11,000 to 5,830, and in Alberta from 9,560 to 4,800.

TO many people, powdered milk is a comparatively new product arising out of the dairying industry. Six hundred years ago the Mongols used to carry a ten-pound brick of dried milk with them on journeys. By breaking off a lump each morning and putting it into a leather water bottle, the constant shaking during the morning's journey provided milk ready to drink by noon.

SEED grain must be moved into some municipalities in the southwestern part of Saskatchewan, owing to crop failures. The Provincial Government has announced that it will guarantee bank loans needed by rural municipalities in the southwestern drought area to help supply seed grain to farmers for 1950, if they cannot obtain seed from their own resources.

A Growing Family . . . Farm work . . . Housework . . .



At last! Day is done and the Rich family snuggles up for a few cozy minutes. Baby Elaine is off to dreamland, but Johnny, Helen, and Elizabeth don't want to miss a word of the story daddy is reading. Mrs. Rich (her arms just naturally go around John) says, "We're as happy as newlyweds. And as much in love!"

How does Mrs. John Rich keep that Happy Glow in her Marriage?



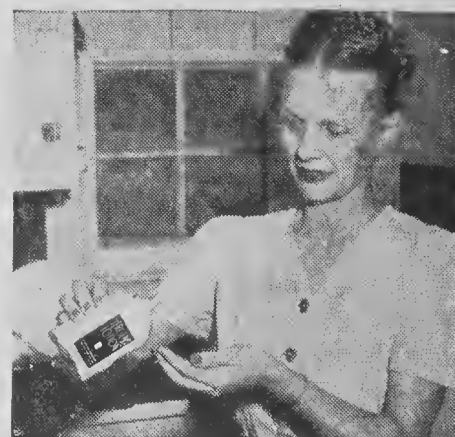
Ever see such a big girl for six months? "Elaine's baths and diapers keep my hands in water. They'd be red and rough if not for Jergens Lotion," says Mrs. Rich. "It makes them soft... the way John likes them!"



John breeds Guernseys, Holsteins and Herefords on their well stocked farm. Mrs. Rich fits their prize Hereford before the show. "Just rub your smooth hands over him for good luck!" John says.



"Every day is wash day," says Mrs. Rich. "We don't have a washing machine... yet. (Listening, Mr. Rich?) So it's strong soap and scrub-in-the-tub. But Jergens makes my hands look pampered, velvety-soft!"



Mrs. Rich uses that extra bottle of Jergens in the kitchen. Being a liquid, Jergens Lotion quickly furnishes the softening moisture thirsty skin needs. Today's richer Jergens Lotion is 10c, 28c, 53c, 98c.

MADE IN CANADA

More women use Jergens Lotion than any other hand care in the world

When baby's sobs mean "Childhood Constipation"



... give gentle **Castoria!**



"It's the laxative made especially for infants and children."

WHEN your baby is tearful and fussy . . . when she sobs because of "Childhood Constipation" . . . it's wise to know what to do. Give her Castoria.

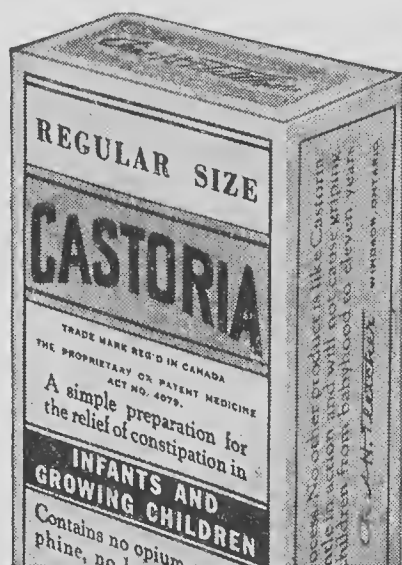
Thorough and effective—yet so gentle, it won't upset sensitive digestive systems.

Made especially for children—contains no harsh drugs, will not cause griping or discomfort.

So pleasant-tasting—children love it and take it gladly without any struggle.

Get Castoria today at your nearest drug or general store. Be sure to ask for the laxative made especially for children.

Economize! Get the money-saving Family Size bottle.



CASTORIA

The **SAFE** laxative
made especially for children

B.C. NEWS REVIEW

Improved roads, plus devaluation, bring tourist dollars. Experimenting with social welfare state

by CHAS. L. SHAW

THIS may not be the appropriate season to speak of such things, but British Columbia is likely to see by far the biggest tourist year in history in 1950.

Several factors had contributed to such an estimate even before the Canadian dollar was devaluated in terms of American money, but the 90-cent dollar is probably the most important one of all. Vacations at bargain rates are just what British Columbia, along with the other provinces, will be able to offer Americans; but British Columbia will have the advantage of several new attractions.

One of them is the Hope-Princeton Highway which will convert a day's arduous and roundabout journey by automobile from the Pacific coast to the Okanagan Valley country into a straight line, scenic trip requiring only a few hours. This highway will not only be an attraction to tourists but to one of the province's most productive farming areas. The Fraser Canyon route has also been greatly improved, and motorists may now look down on the spectacular river rapids with a thrill unmixed with terror. The Peace River highway won't be finished next year, but those who have travelled on it as far as it goes report it has few duplicates anywhere for scenic beauty.

If devaluation may be counted on to stimulate travel from south of the border, its effect on other B.C. industries is not so clear. For every theoretical gain there appears to be an offsetting disadvantage. Fortunately most of the larger orders received from the United Kingdom this year—for apples, canned salmon and lumber—were payable in dollars. Next year, if Britain has not improved her dollar position tremendously and hasn't the same access to ECA or loan funds, she is hardly likely to be very liberal in her buying when her pounds sterling have so little buying power in this market.

With so many traditional markets removed—at least for the time being, British Columbians are casting about for other trade outlets and it begins to look as though they will have to depend more and more on the United States and the home market. This is a new situation for B.C. because for the past decade 70 per cent or more of the province's basic output has been shipped away.

As an instance of the new trend, west coast salmon canners have started an ambitious program to make Canadians eat more fish, and poultrymen west of the Rockies are trying to develop turkeys "standing at a 45 degree posture, with breastbone and back parallel and with heavy white-meat flesh-cover," which are said to be the requirements of the Canadian market.

SUCH specifications, incidentally, although recommended by the government, have been disputed by some poultrymen who claim that such a bird as described would run to 20 pounds or more, whereas the popular bird nowadays averages less than 14 pounds.

Speaking of poultry, there may be an opportunity for B.C. hatcherymen to ship more eggs to the United States, and get a premium on their dollars too. John E. Perry, one of California's most enterprising hatcherymen, says that British Columbia is neglecting a potential market of \$750,000 alone through failure to cater to California demands.

"Six years ago," reports Mr. Perry, "there were about 600 to 700 cases of eggs coming down into California from British Columbia every week. Shipments today are negligible, but the demand is still there."

California apparently wants a broad-breasted bird. Such birds are being raised at the University of British Columbia and it is hoped that they will gain readier acceptance among private hatcherymen. The theory is that a big state like California imports about half its eggs for hatching, and they might as well come from British Columbia—or at least, a large proportion of them.

IN export trade one never knows where the next order is coming from. Few Vancouver grain shippers would have guessed a few weeks ago that their port would be busy handling wheat for Iran this fall, but during the coming months some 65,000 tons will have been exported from the Pacific outlet to that distant market. One of the reasons for the diversion of this business to Vancouver is that Iran, the ancient Persian kingdom, lacks adequate dock facilities for handling bulk wheat, and it so happens that Vancouver has first-rate grain-sacking accommodation, even if the process does involve some complications, especially since it isn't always easy to obtain an ample supply of sacks on short notice.

The provincial government has had a lot of explaining to do in connection with its compulsory hospital insurance program which was introduced only a few months ago but which has proved far costlier to administer than had been expected.

Public confidence in the scheme was somewhat upset by the knowledge that collections had been failing to meet the cost during the first year's operation by some \$3,000,000. The government's explanation is that costs of hospitalization have been steadily rising and that they far exceeded the estimates of the experts engaged to get the insurance program under way.

There seems to be general agreement that hospital insurance is a good thing in principle, but the question has been raised as to whether the government would not have been better advised to wait until hospital facilities had reached the point where the additional accommodation needed under the new law could be more easily provided. With the insurance plan in effect, there are signs that more people have been availing themselves of hospital care than would normally be the case, and this sudden demand for space has caused acute congestion in some of the larger cities.

However, hospital insurance is evidently here to stay and British Colum-

THREE RATIONS IN ONE!



NEW WINDSOR COBALT IODIZED SALT

COBALT is essential in the diet of cattle and sheep, and it has been definitely established that lack of cobalt can cause "pining disease," a condition of poor or depraved appetite and progressive emaciation.

Hay and grain are often low in cobalt, but you can assure your cattle and sheep of an adequate ration with WINDSOR COBALT IODIZED SALT. This new Windsor product combines three important dietary elements: cobalt, iodine and salt. There's no better or cheaper way to protect your livestock against the ill effects of cobalt deficiency.

WINDSOR COBALT IODIZED SALT comes in three forms: loose stock salt; 50-lb. blocks; and 5-lb. licks.



A Product of
CANADIAN INDUSTRIES LIMITED
SALT DIVISION

bians will soon be accustomed to it and no doubt be thankful for it, too, even though it is going to cost more money than they had originally thought.

This insurance is another step in the advanced social welfare set-up sponsored by succeeding British Columbia governments. The province has gone a long way since it was the first in Canada to enforce a workmen's compensation act which at the time of its inception during World War I was regarded in some quarters as a radical departure.

The next item on the program will probably be an expansion of the pension plan for elderly citizens, although it is generally recognized that the federal authorities will have to make the move. However, if prodding is required, British Columbia is ready to prod. The union of British Columbia municipalities recently dealt with a resolution calling for a federal program to take care of "senior citizens" who are unable to contribute sufficient amounts for superannuation.

THE trouble-making wing of the Doukhobor colony west of the Rockies—the so-called Sons of Freedom—have been talking about wholesale emigration from Canada. Their leader has been negotiating with a view to having some 4,000 of his group take up their future home in Turkey, of all places. He claims to have the eager support of at least 1,000. The orthodox Doukhobors, of whom there are about 11,000, would not be affected. Indeed, the orthodox wing, which has made a sincere effort to conform with established practice in Canada, would probably be happy to see their demonstrative and unstable neighbors go as far away as possible. This is a sentiment in which most other British Columbians would join.

Speaking of emigration, British Columbia hopes that during the coming months there will be favorable developments in connection with the immigration of good farm stock from Europe, especially the Netherlands.

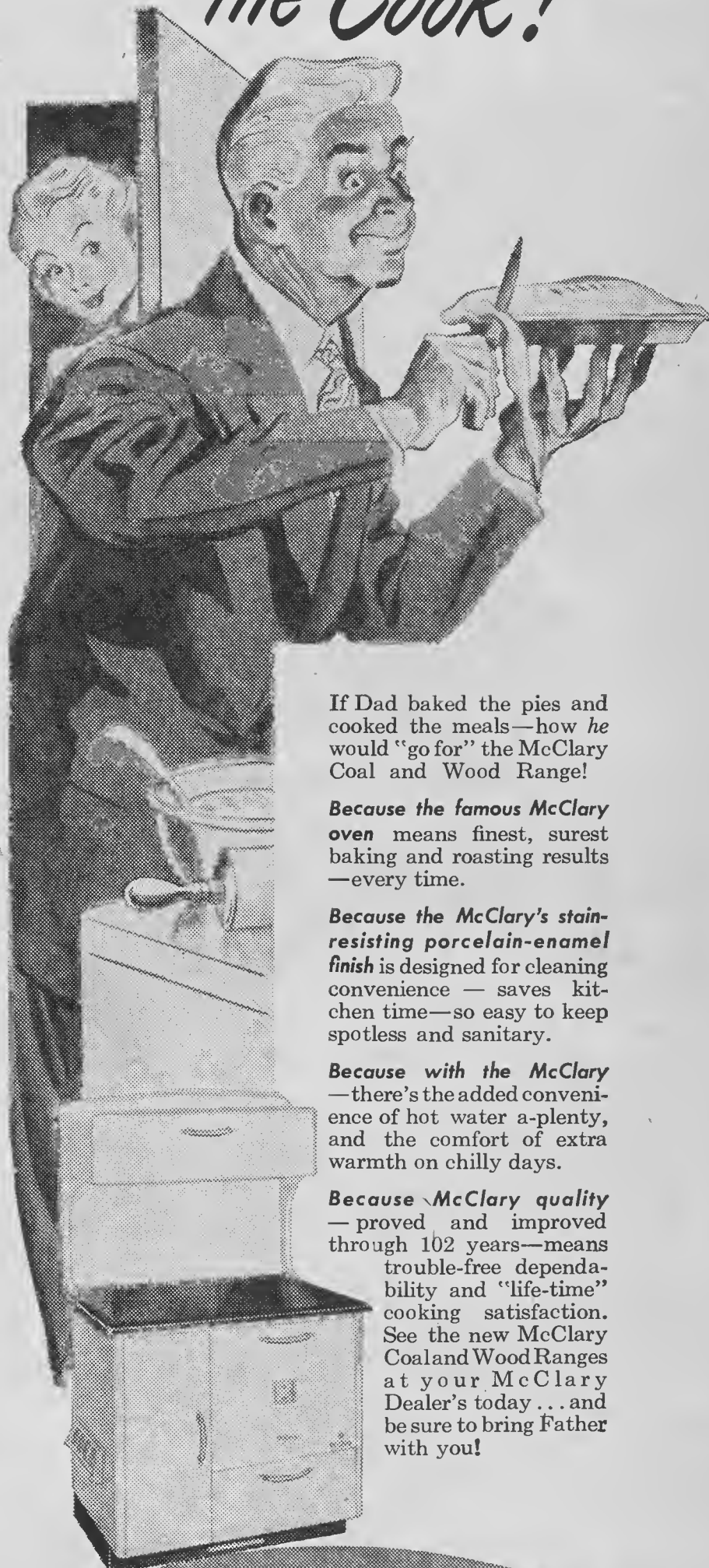
There have been negotiations between representatives of the British Columbia and Dutch government regarding the latter's plan to settle some 10,000 Dutch farmers in Canada this year. Dr. A. S. Tuinman, Holland's agriculture and immigration attache in Canada, believes that such settlers would do well in British Columbia.

A few thousand industrious and experienced Dutch farmers and their families, with their long heritage of successful land use, would make a wonderful exchange for the unwelcome Doukhobor fanatics.

The British Columbia government is being urged to adopt a more realistic and effective immigration program designed to bring to the province just such settlers as the Dutch immigrants.

Through highway building, extension of the Pacific Great Eastern Railway and other undertakings, the government is creating access to regions of the province hitherto neglected. From now on the concern of the government should be to seek the right type of settlers to populate those areas and make them productive. Such a program, if it gets results, will go a long way towards balancing the province's economy.

IF FATHER was the Cook!



If Dad baked the pies and cooked the meals—how *he* would "go for" the McClary Coal and Wood Range!

Because the famous McClary oven means finest, surest baking and roasting results—every time.

Because the McClary's stain-resisting porcelain-enamel finish is designed for cleaning convenience—saves kitchen time—so easy to keep spotless and sanitary.

Because with the McClary—there's the added convenience of hot water a-plenty, and the comfort of extra warmth on chilly days.

Because McClary quality—proved and improved through 102 years—means trouble-free dependability and "life-time" cooking satisfaction. See the new McClary Coal and Wood Ranges at your McClary Dealer's today... and be sure to bring Father with you!


McCLARY
COAL & WOOD RANGES

Since
1847



PRODUCTS OF GENERAL STEEL WARES LIMITED

LIVESTOCK



Start

WITH A

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The BATTERY YOU CAN TRUST

HART BATTERY COMPANY, LIMITED
 VANCOUVER • CALGARY • REGINA • WINNIPEG • TORONTO
 MONTREAL • SAINT JOHN, N.B. • HALIFAX • ST. JOHNS, P.Q.



These naturally-posed matrons seem to know that they belong to one of the longest established Ayrshire herds in British Columbia, that of Edwin A. Wells and Son, at Sardis.

Some Hog Marketing Increase

SEPTEMBER marketings of hogs as compared with marketings for the same month a year ago showed an increase in eastern Canada of 30 per cent, in western Canada of almost eight per cent, and an increase for all Canada of 19 per cent.

According to officials of the Canadian Meat Board, Manitoba showed the greatest September increase, with a rise of 52 per cent. The Maritimes followed with a rise of 33 per cent. Quebec was up 23.7 per cent, and Ontario 21.6 per cent.

For the whole third quarter (July, August and September) of this year, eastern Canada showed an increase of 18.8 per cent over the same period in 1948. This compares very favorably with the second quarter, because 1949 marketings in the second quarter were 10 per cent below the same period last year. In the whole of western Canada, despite Manitoba's gain, the marketings in the third quarter of 1949 were 14.7 per cent below the marketings in the same period of last year.

In spite of fall gains in parts of Canada, the country as a whole has not caught up with the 1948 marketings. At the end of September the East was still 10 per cent below the marketings for the same nine months of 1948, and the 1949 figure for the West was 36 per cent below last year's sales—an average reduction for the whole country of 20 per cent.

Washing The Separator

IN 1948 only 67 per cent of the cream shipped in the province of Manitoba was sweet when it was delivered, reports the Dairy Branch, Manitoba Department of Agriculture. It is estimated that farmers in the province lost over \$280,000 by not shipping best quality cream. The other western provinces are probably in a similar position.

If good quality cream is to be produced it must be kept clean. There are many ways in which it can be contaminated. If great care is not exercised in keeping the milk clean there is not much hope for the cream. Milking areas must be kept clean and dust-free, and utensils must receive attention before and after milking. Added to all the other precautions it is excellent policy to cool the cream quickly, preferably in cold water.

The separator is often an unsuspected offender. When the bowl runs empty, flush the separator with a pint of warm water or skim-milk. Then put about a tablespoonful of a wetting agent—which can be procured from a creamery—into the supply tank and add a pint of warm water, and stir. While this is running through the machine into a dishpan, brush the supply tank inside and out, and clean the milk and cream spouts with a soft brush. A cloth should not be used.

The separator bowl should then be dismantled and rinsed in wash water, and the parts placed in the supply tank. The disks can be put in the wash water and a brush run down the holes several times, pumping the water between the disks. A kettle of boiling water can be poured over the parts, and then they can be allowed to dry. A cloth over the supply can will keep off dust. This type of care will help to prevent bacteria from breeding in the separator.

Salt In The Diet

IT IS very important that livestock should have adequate supplies of salt. Salt is composed of sodium and chlorine. A lack of sodium in the diet will result in retarded growth by lowering the utilization of digested protein and energy. A lack of sodium will also prevent reproduction. Chlorine plays a role in the acid-base relations of the body.

Cattle receiving no salt will show an abnormal appetite for it after two or three weeks, and within a matter of months there is likely to be a loss of appetite, an unthrifty condition and loss of weight. In the case of lactating females there will be a fall in production. If salt is fed, recovery will be rapid. However, farm animals have died from consuming too much salt when given free access to it after not having had any for a long time. The best policy for both cattle and sheep is to make salt freely available at all times.

The best results with sheep have been achieved when small amounts of salt are placed in troughs at the bed-ground at frequent intervals. Cattle can be encouraged to use remote or unused parts of the range by putting the salt troughs in such areas. Either loose or block salt can be used. The decision will depend on which is the

"All around the farm" *your* TRUCK *of* ALL-CHORES



GMC

Your GMC Pick-Up will carry your farm load anywhere. Carry stock, carry grain . . . stake racks for bulk loading, a canopy top for weather protection. Speed down the highway or roll across a field. You'll get more done at less cost with a GMC! All-steel body includes a grain-tight tail gate and stake pockets. Choose from three models with bodies from 6½ to 9 feet long — all powered by the famous GMC valve-in-head "Workhorse" Engine. Ask your dealer about them!



THE KEY
TO
GREATER
VALUE

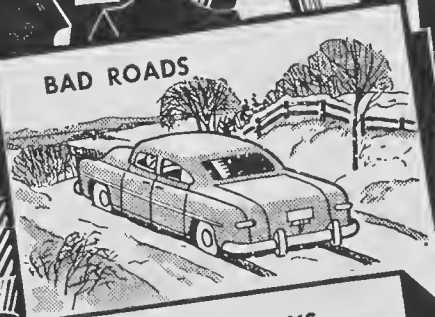


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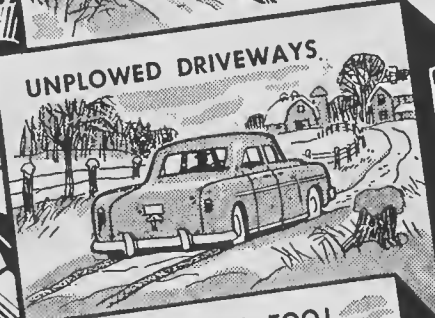
THE TRUCK OF EXTRA VALUE • GASOLINE • DIESEL

Gets through Snow!

BAD ROADS



UNPLOWED DRIVEWAYS



MADE FOR TRUCKS TOO!



YOU NEED THIS SUPER TRACTION on your Rear Wheels

Here's the sturdy, winter-wonder tire especially designed to give you safe, smooth, dependable driving through winter's roughest days. Firestone Studded Tires . . . the tire that's proved itself to be the greatest winter driving aid to countless thousands of Canadians.

One look at those tough, self-cleaning Studs . . . each with eight biting, gripping edges . . . will show you how Firestone Studs get the powerful super-traction that drives or backs you through snow, mud, slush . . . lets you drive with safety, park with ease — regardless of road conditions.

Don't let blocked roads, driveways and snow-filled parking ruts mar your driving. Have your nearest Firestone Dealer put a pair of Firestone Studded Tires on your rear wheels now . . . then you'll have safe, convenient driving all winter.

Firestone STUDDED TIRES

cheaper or the more convenient.

On the prairies when salt is being fed it is an excellent practice to get in the habit of feeding iodized salt. If loose salt is used one ounce of potassium iodide added to 500 pounds of salt will avoid any deficiency, and will prevent livestock from suffering from goitre. If block salt is used blocks can be bought which contain ample iodine.

The addition of iodine to the ration is particularly important in the case of pregnant females. Iodine deficiencies are responsible for hairless, goitrous and weak animals at the time of birth. When pregnant animals are being hand-fed a simple procedure is to dissolve an ounce of potassium iodide in a gallon of water, and feed the solution at the rate of a teaspoonful three times a week to pregnant sows and ewes and a teaspoonful daily to each cow or mare.

New Swine Class

A NEW class in hogs has recently put in an appearance at some of the shows in western Canada. It consists of three pigs being shown together in what is known as a breeder-feeder class. The exhibit includes one bacon hog for butchering, a gilt and a boar for breeding, the three in the class to be litter mates and purebred. This has the advantage that it keeps anything from going to the top in which the litter does not have good qualities both for purposes of breeding and on the rail. It is hoped that this technique will serve to keep the show-ring standards for good pigs pretty close to the type that produces our "A" grade bacon carcasses. Also, potential buyers of the boar and gilt in the class will know how the litter mate has measured up on the rail, and it will give extra information that will help a breeder to correctly evaluate a boar or gilt, and help him to decide if it would look good in his herd. Carried far enough this class could hold market and show-ring standards very close together—where they should be.

The breeder-feeder class first appeared in western Canada at the Manitoba Show and Sale of Sheep and Swine at Brandon last year. It was again used at Brandon this year, 14 breeders exhibiting three animals each to a total of 42 animals in this class alone. It is also being used at the Fall Show and Livestock Sales, Regina, this year, for the first time. It is a class that promises to come into more general use.

The Regina class is handled a little differently from the event in Brandon. In Brandon the three pigs are brought to the show where all can be observed on the hoof. Some time during the show the barrow or gilt to be rail-graded is taken out to the local packinghouse and slaughtered and judged on the rail. This gives the breeders an opportunity to see the pigs on the hoof and later find how the same pig scored on the rail. This is considered desirable, but it presents the problem to the feeder that he must have his litter just up to the right killing weight at the time of the show, or the pig on the rail will not fall within the limits set for top-grade hogs. In Regina the pig to be rail-graded can be slaughtered any time after July and kept in cold storage until it is judged for the October show. This gets around the problem of having your pigs at the right bacon weight for the show, but has the serious disadvantage that the

breeders do not have the opportunity of observing the pig before it is slaughtered and comparing their impressions with the final rail grade that the pig attains.

The breeder-feeder class is restricted to purebred animals. Some problems still have to be ironed out in the class, but it is hoped that it will, in time, prove to be very useful in the correct evaluating of the best in bacon pigs.

Returns From Wool

BREEDING, nutrition, the health of the flock, the preparation of wool for shipment and the price of wool, all combine to have an influence on the returns gained from the range production of wool. These factors can largely be controlled by the man in charge of the flock.

Flock returns at shearing can be kept higher if breeding stock are selected for heavy, light-shrinking fleeces of uniform fineness and good staple length. H. F. Peters, Dominion Range Experiment Station, Manyberries, Alberta, reports that Romnelets (produced from a cross of Romney Marsh on Rambouillet) give an average fleece weight of 10 to 12 pounds of light shrinking wool grading 58's to 60's.

Nutrition also affects wool yields. In 1948, a band of ewes which received crested wheatgrass up to mid-pregnancy, and alfalfa hay plus a pound of whole oats from mid-pregnancy up to lambing, gave an average fleece weight, when sheared, of 10.1 pounds, compared with 8.7-pound fleeces from ewes which received only crested wheatgrass hay. If alfalfa hay is not available, pretty much the same result can be achieved by feeding a small allowance of linseed oil cake.

Unhealthy or unthrifty sheep will not be good wool producers. Sickness, undue exposure, or a lack of feed, will result in smaller and weaker fibres and so decrease the yield of wool.

The price of wool has an obvious effect on the returns from a flock of sheep. However, there is little the individual producer can do about this aspect of the business except to produce a high quality product that will compete advantageously with wool available from any other source.

Crowded Stock Cars

AN Alberta stockman was recently hauled into court and fined, with an option of 10 days in jail. The offence was the crowding of a stock car and charges were laid by the Alberta Humane Society.

According to Humane Society Officer H. J. Jones, 72 calves and yearlings were loaded into a stock car. When the car arrived in Edmonton seven calves were found to be badly trampled and bruised, several having broken ribs and internal injuries. In two cases gangrene had set in. Thirty per cent of the animals in the car were badly bruised and were a total loss.

Metallic Milk

MILK can develop a metallic flavor from any one of a considerable number of causes. In many cases this flavor comes from the cans in which the cream is shipped. Old, rusty cans should be discarded. To avoid rustiness, cans should not be used for transporting water, and should be turned upside down when they are stored. Before they are again used they should be cleaned. A common practice is to

rinse, drain and air the cans immediately upon their return from the creamery. This reduces the danger of off-flavors.

A metallic flavor in cream is sometimes traceable to storage in jam or honey pails. This can be avoided by using glass, stainless steel or well-tinned containers. Galvanized pails will also cause a metallic flavor and should not be used. The separator itself can be an offender. Worn discs, bowls or spouts permit the cream to come in contact with bare metal which may impart a metallic flavor.

In addition to all of this it is always advisable to adopt good cleaning practices. The use of abundant hot water on all dairy equipment will help to guard against off-flavors.

Fall Care Of Rams

A FEW poor animals in the ram flock can very quickly take the profit out of a sheep project. Improper care of the ram before the breeding season can lead to a poor lamb crop, and to serious losses. Poor rams should be culled out of the flock, and those retained given the best of care.

Rams kept for breeding should be straight on the top line, wide over the loin, and thick and deep in the body. The leg should be well-filled. The fleece must be long and dense, with a good long staple. After the poor rams are culled out, the replacements should be obtained early enough so that they can become used to their new surroundings before the breeding season starts.

The condition of the feet is important. If the hoofs are properly trimmed the ram will walk up on its feet in a natural and comfortable manner.

Supplemental feeding is not usually necessary as long as rams are on green grass. In dry years when there is little new growth some extra protein may be necessary. A quarter of a pound of oil cake per animal per day will supply the necessary protein. A half-pound of oats per day will help to keep the ram in good condition. If drought is severe and green grass is scarce, or if rams are not on pasture, alfalfa makes very excellent roughage as it supplies additional essential vitamins.

Feed And Milk Relationships

GENERALLY speaking, a herd of milk cows must return \$200 per cow for every \$100 worth of feed fed at market values before expenses, including all labor, are met. This fact automatically emphasizes two important costs, for concentrates and for labor.

The Manitoba Dairy Survey provides some interesting results secured from a study of 33 whole milk farms. These

farms were divided into two main groups, each sub-divided into smaller groups on the basis of butterfat production per cow. Two of these six small groups produced some interesting results. One group of farms fed an average of 2,413 pounds of concentrate per dairy animal unit and had an average butterfat production per cow of 255 pounds. This group of owners received an average of \$88.33 per cow for labor.

Another group of dairymen fed an average of 3,362 pounds of concentrates, secured an average of 326 pounds of butterfat per cow and received \$88.90 per cow for labor, or almost the same labor return as for the first group.

These two groups again, may be compared with two further groups. One of these averaged 239 pounds butterfat per cow and fed an average of 1,233 pounds concentrates each, while the return for the labor expended on them was \$97.20 per cow. The second group fed 1,433 pounds of concentrates and produced an average of 315 pounds of butterfat per cow, as well as a return for labor of \$118.78.

After all, it is not so much the average production of butterfat per cow that is important, as the final return for the labor expended. Comparing the last group mentioned with a fifth group will illustrate this point. The fifth group were fed an average of 2,447 pounds of concentrate per animal unit and produced an average of 294 pounds of butterfat per cow. This was a thousand pounds per cow more feed and 21 pounds less butterfat per cow than the group that averaged \$118 return for labor. In this case the return for labor was only \$107.86 per cow, which illustrates very clearly that a point can be reached when additional concentrates are not profitable. The reason for this is that beyond a certain concentrate consumption, which will vary with individual cows, added concentrates will be eaten but at the expense of hay and other cheaper feeds. Production will probably increase somewhat, but the return for labor will decrease.

Lead Poisoning

IT has been reported from Alberta that several head of cattle have been lost due to lead poisoning. The poisoning results from animals licking paint from boards, discarded paint cans, or chewing old battery plates. If lead poisoning occurs, a veterinarian's services will be immediately required. The problem can be avoided by disposing of paint cans and similar offenders. Also, if salt and bone meal are freely available, lead poisoning becomes most unlikely.



Choice-bred cattle destined for market can be fed longer and to heavier weights than lower grade animals. The heavier the animal the more feed per pound of gain, and the better the market grade of the animal, the more attention should be paid to the quality of feed.

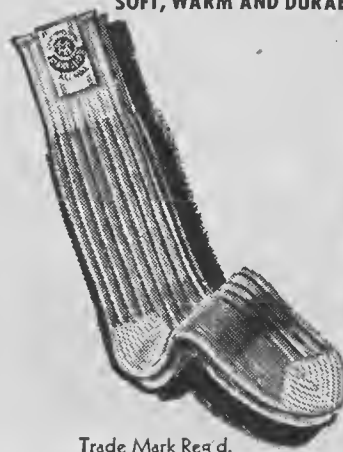
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This 100-acre oat field on the Richard F. Platte farm, Nipawin, Saskatchewan, is growing the new University of Saskatchewan variety *Fortune*, bred to suit essentially the same area as *Exeter*, than which it is slightly earlier and higher in protein, taller, stronger strawed and about equal in yield and disease resistance.

Irrigated Hay Crops

A LARGE part of the irrigable land, especially in southwestern Saskatchewan is low-lying, with heavy soil types containing moderate to heavy amounts of alkali salts. These areas are often flat and require careful draining and leveling to avoid over-irrigation and a resulting upward rise of alkali salts. Forage crops are well suited to such soil conditions.

Selecting the right forage crop for such conditions is a problem. Alfalfa is high yielding and will produce a good quality hay crop for several years, but there are certain limitations to its use. Land that is level and well-drained land is required, or the crop will kill out in the low places, with pond water. Waterlogging of the soil will thin out the stand and in places where there is a high salt concentration it would be inadvisable to grow alfalfa alone. In many irrigated areas a grass-alfalfa mixture will produce a larger yield of high quality feed that is particularly good for winter feeding or fattening of cattle and sheep.

The Dominion Experimental Station, Swift Current, Saskatchewan, reports that the four-year average yield of an irrigated brome-alfalfa mixture was 3.71 tons per acre compared with 3.88 tons for Ladak alfalfa and 3.51 tons for Grimm alfalfa. A Reed Canary-alfalfa mixture averaged 3.50 tons and a crested wheatgrass-alfalfa mixture averaged the same.

If grass was grown alone very low yields were obtained. A slender wheatgrass-alfalfa mixture produced two cuttings for a yield of 3.66 tons per acre compared to 1.03 tons of slender wheatgrass grown alone. A Reed Canary-alfalfa mixture yielded 3.41 tons per acre, while Reed Canary grass alone yielded only 0.55 tons.

The greatest differences observed were not in yields, but in the quality of the hay produced. The slender wheatgrass-alfalfa mixture contained 16.4 per cent protein compared to 8.9 per cent protein in slender wheatgrass grown alone. The second cutting of the mixture contained 22.1 per cent protein. Converted to protein per acre, the mixture produced 1,190 pounds, while the grass alone produced 164 pounds. The same result was gained with the Reed Canary-alfalfa mixture.

The mixture produced 1,132 pounds of protein, and the Reed Canary grass alone produced 118 pounds.

In general it is best to grow alfalfa on better land that is relatively free from salts, quickly irrigated and well drained. Alfalfa-grass mixtures are better on heavier, poorer soils that are not so well drained and have higher concentrations of salt. If soil conditions are suited to alfalfa it will give good returns as a cash crop or for feeding to dairy cattle. For winter feeding of beef cattle or sheep, the grass-alfalfa mixtures are preferable.

Conservation Pays Cash

THE U.S. Soil Conservation Service and the University of Wisconsin have studied the costs of conservation in Vernon County, Wisconsin, for the crop year 1945-1946. They found that farmers following most of the recommended soil conservation practices in that crop year had \$407 more gross income than their neighbors who did about half as much soil conserving. This was after subtracting seed, lime and fertilizer costs from the gross incomes of soil conservation farmers. In other words, they secured an average of \$3 more per acre, from their whole farms, or \$5 more from each acre of crop land.

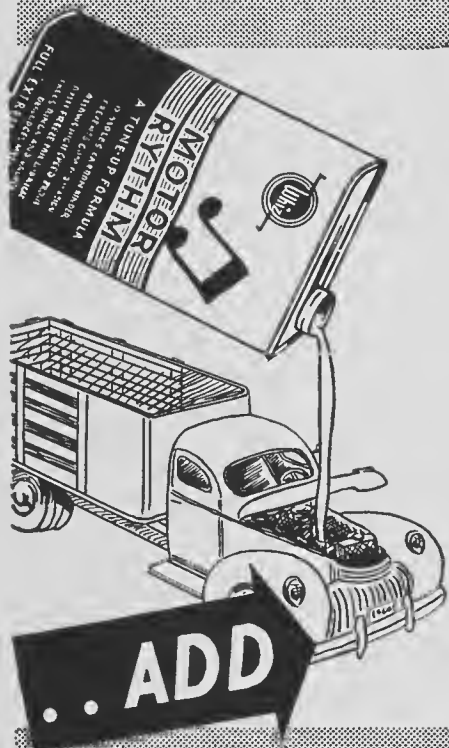
Thirty-one farms divided into two groups were studied. One group of 15 farms had put into effect 87 per cent of the soil-saving practices recommended, while the other 16 farms had only applied 43 per cent of such practices. The two groups differed in size by only one acre and the same difference applied to acres in crops, also the percentage of Class I, II and III land was 51 per cent in each. These and other comparisons led to the conclusion that the two groups of farms were almost exactly the same as to soil type, slope, erosion conditions and size.

The high conservation farms had had conservation plans in effect for three years or more, while the other group had prepared plans only recently. All had the help of Vernon County soil conservation advisers. The soil-conserving farmers had 12 per cent higher hay yields, 18 per cent more nutrients harvested in the crop and, when renovated pastures were included, this

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figure was raised to 27 per cent. They had three more dairy cows per farm, averaging slightly higher in butterfat production. They were more successful in production, income and yield in all farm enterprises. Though they produced 40 per cent less tobacco, the average tobacco yield per acre was 13 per cent better.

Buy The New Machine?

THERE are a lot of different opinions as to when a machine is worn out. One man will trade a machine in after he has used it for three years, and another, with the same machine and the same amount of land will keep an identical machine for seven years. Which one is doing the wise thing?

The measure to use here, as in many decisions on the farm, is the measure of comparative costs. If it costs less to get a new machine than it does to keep the old, that is the thing to do. If a machine is taking a lot of time for repairing and is leading to poor timing of field operations, it should be sold. Other factors also must be considered. The machine may be using a lot of oil and gas, it may not be doing good work, and so be responsible for the wasting of considerable time. On the other hand, an old piece of equipment that is doing good work might just as well be kept.

Another factor that must be kept in mind is the rate at which obsolescence becomes important. It is conceivable that a farmer might be able to acquire a 1928 tractor that had never been used and was in "new" shape. He still would not pay as much for the machine as he would for a 1949 model, because of the fact that it is now obsolete. Every development on a new machine that makes it more efficient or easier to operate makes older machines somewhat less economical. When enough improvements have been made on new machines, old ones become relatively costly to operate and a new machine may be the cheapest in the long run.

Workshop Jobs

MACHINES which have been busy all summer are now in machine sheds and fence corners across the country. It will be some months before they are needed again, yet this is the time to see that when they are needed they are in condition to do a good job of work.

Ideally they should be protected from rain and snow. Whether they are or not, bearings should be freshly lubricated to keep out water and dirt, wearing surface coated with effective anti-rust compound and the rest of the machine cleaned and given a coat of fresh paint. Canvases should be repaired and stored away from attacks by mice or rats; the weight should be taken off rubber tires, and discs and cultivators placed on boards so that the working parts will not rust. Plenty of other things demand attention. Plow shares, cultivator shovels and drag-harrow teeth need sharpening, and mower, combine and binder knives need to be repaired and sharpened.

The fall and winter months also are the ideal time for checking machinery for repairs and adjustments that need attention. If each machine is checked over, a written list made out of the needed repairs and adjustments and

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the jobs done as time permits, the machine will be in first-class shape for taking the field in the spring. This kind of winter attention will reduce breakdowns and stoppages next summer and will save time when time is really important.

Soil Moisture And Fertility

THE soil research laboratory established at the Dominion Experimental Station, Swift Current, in 1935, has now published its third report on its research and experimental projects associated with the important problems of soil moisture, wind erosion, and fertility of prairie soils. The third report, which appeared in June as publication 819 of the Dominion Experimental Farms Service, is well worth a very careful perusal by any dry-land farmer on the Canadian prairies. Data are presented which apply to some projects which have been under way for twenty years or more, during which period there has occurred a very wide variation in climatic conditions. Principal attention is paid to the years 1943 to 1947, which is the period which has elapsed since the second report was made public, covering the first five years' work of the laboratory.

Surprising differences occur between the precipitation received during the year at various points in the prairie provinces, and showing the amount of evaporation between the months of May to September inclusive. It would no doubt be surprising to many people to know that the average yearly precipitation at Regina is 14.1 inches while at Indian Head only 52 miles east, it is 17.2 inches. More surprising, perhaps, is the fact that at Melfort, northeast of Saskatoon, precipitation averages only 15.17 inches. Equally surprising too, perhaps, is the fact that the annual precipitation at Scott, Saskatchewan, which is northwest of Saskatoon is a little less than 13.77 inches, while considerably south, at Swift Current (normally considered a dry area), the figure is 14.91 inches. Likewise, much closer to Swift Current than Scott are Manyberries, (southeastern Alberta) with 11.71 inches, and Medicine Hat with 13.02 inches. The precipitation at Lethbridge is only .43 inches greater than at Melfort, Saskatchewan, while the difference between Indian Head, Saskatchewan and

Lacombe and Beaverlodge in Alberta is not more than two-tenths of an inch, by any comparison. Similarly, the amount of precipitation in Fort Vermilion in the extreme north of Alberta is only .16 inches greater than at Manyberries in the extreme south-east.

The handicap faced by the southern parts of the prairie provinces is in the amount of evaporation. Where the evaporation at Beaverlodge is 16.9 inches, Lacombe 15.81 inches, Calgary 16.5 inches, and Brandon 16.19 inches, it is 25.46 inches at Morden, 29.12 inches at Swift Current, 26.33 inches at Lethbridge and 32.41 inches at Manyberries. The high evaporation at Swift Current makes crop production more hazardous, and added to this, rainfall during the growing season and total annual precipitation are both quite variable.

Data over a period of 62 years at Swift Current does not indicate any definite cycle of wet and dry years, but it does show that during the April-July growing season, precipitation was less than the average of 7.8 inches in 39 of the 62 years. Moreover, it also shows that the yearly precipitation was below the average of 14.91 inches in 35 of the 62 years.

The report reveals a wide variety of research and experimental projects, ranging from the amount of water conserved by summerfallow, the effect of different fallow treatments, the water requirement of wheat, the rate at which crops use water during the season and the effect of additional moisture on yields, to the effect of shelterbelts on yields of wheat and many other points of practical interest; including the degree of dormancy of weed seeds and the period of the year during which seeds of individual weeds germinate and grow.

Registered Seed Is Better

REGISTERED seed is better. This statement alone makes registered seed sound attractive; nevertheless, most people are acquainted with this fact. They know that it is logical, if only for the reason that registered seed is pure seed and does not contain any mixtures of other varieties, other grains, or weeds. The great and outstanding contribution of the Canadian Seed Growers' Association lies in this: The Association consists of registered seed growers who have themselves set



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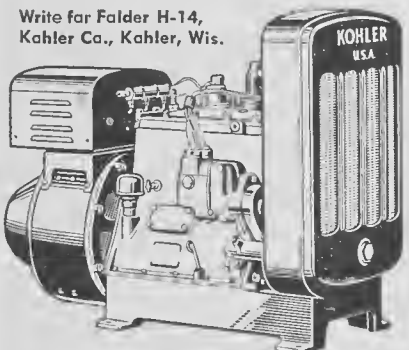
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Registered seed for any given grade or generation is also uniform in quality, and added to this is the fact that because of its purity and uniformity, it will, if sown on soil and in an area adapted to the variety, increase yields.

The point of this article, however, is not merely that registered seed is better. Registered seed is better because it is better. In case this sounds somewhat foolish, here is the explanation. F. W. Townley-Smith, a past-president of the Canadian Seed Growers' Association recently explained the idea this way:

"When a farmer buys registered seed, it comes to him in new sacks, carefully sewn, and bearing tags showing its history and its registration number. He pays more money for this registered seed than he pays for just seed. Having made up his mind before that he would give some of this registered seed a trial, he probably took extra pains with a piece of summerfallow and so provided his good seed with a good seed bed. He picked exactly the right time and the right conditions for seeding. His drill was in good order as were also his other machines. Quietly, and almost unknown to himself, he gradually worked his way into better farming methods. He realized that it would be bad business to put that kind of seed into weedy fields, so he started to clean up and presently he had no weedy fields. Naturally, he got higher yields. The pride and the care that he took with his registered crop manifested itself all over the farm. His neighbors began to buy their seed from him. He himself got better grades and less dockage at the elevator and, overall, derived much more satisfaction from his job. This happens often enough to surprise a great many people, as registered seed growers themselves could testify."

Red Fescue Useful

AMONG the grasses, creeping red fescue is proving its value in hay and pasture mixtures in the moister areas. The grass was introduced from Czechoslovakia in 1931, and underwent extensive testing and selection at the Olds School of Agriculture.

Imports of fescue were cut off due to the war, but since that time recognition of its value as a livestock feed and as a soil builder has grown steadily. It must be noted that it is not a dry-land grass, but in many areas of the black and grey soil zones, especially in Alberta, its inclusion in hay and pasture mixtures can be recommended. The grass not only provides palatable, nutritious feed, but its fibrous root system, spreading thickly through the top six inches of the soil, restores the organic matter to the soil and improves its condition. Creeping red fescue is proving as valuable in the moister areas for restoring fibre and organic matter to the soil as crested wheatgrass is in the drier areas.

Which is really Lucille Ball?



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(See answer below)



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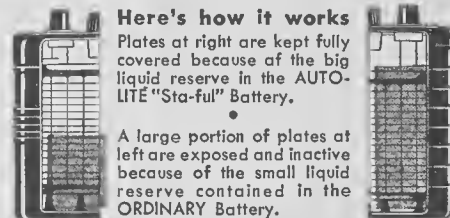
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Oh, he's a sly one, this Put-Off Bird! And such a trouble-maker that he even tries to get fathers to neglect their family's financial security. But fortunately a deadly enemy of this bird often appears at such critical moments - and saves the day.

This enemy of the bird-and friend of fathers-is *the life insurance representative*. Aiming a few realistic facts at the mischievous creature, he kills it deadlier than its cousin, the Dodo. Its dangerous propaganda is silenced. And always the father then realizes why he should act to protect his family *immediately*.

Thus the life insurance representative helps prevent countless people from having to depend on charity or relatives for their support in years to come.

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LIFE INSURANCE... Guardian of Canadian Homes

A message from the more than fifty Life Insurance Companies in Canada

LR-109

Paratroopers

Continued from page 10

who were about to risk their necks. Everyone was up for a good breakfast at 3:30 a.m. on the morning of the 6th. It was amazing to see so many hungry men around at this hour. Just as day was breaking they were all assembled on a hill overlooking the Beeton River, a mile or so north of the air station held by the imaginary enemy. It was a sharp, beautifully clear morning, and the air was like champagne. General Penhale had a difficult decision to make at 4:00 a.m. Wind and weather are everything in such an operation, but, like Eisenhower on "D" Day, the general said "Yes," and the battle was on.

AS dawn broke a force of attacking planes converged on the airport from the north. Harvards and Mustangs zoomed low all around and interceptor aircraft dashed into the battle. Then observers had the spectacle of a lifetime—at 6:10 a.m. they saw eight large Dakota transports fly in past the rising sun and spill their full loads of the Princess Patricias Paratroopers at about 1,000 feet high.

The observer saw only a flash as each man jumped out and was snatched to one side as his white parachute billowed open. Many men were left swinging in the air, pulling at their cords, their rifles dropped down by their sides. Soon the chutes stopped swinging, and the hardy jumpers were seen to drop among some trees. These men were hardly down when another flight of eight Dakotas flew in and dropped another load of paratroopers as well as some equipment to sway down and join the soldiers below. There was so much to see in the air at one time that it was impossible to see everything. But this was not all.

Ten minutes later a lone Dakota came in low towing two gliders filled with Patricias. Watchers could see the tow lines shaking clear in the release as the gliders turned around into the wind to make a perfect landing in a big wheat field below us. This wheat field, half a mile below the spectators, was the selected dropping zone for the troops. The authorities had made arrangements with the farmer for compensation for likely damage to this fine field of ripening wheat and it looked as if the farmer had got the best of the deal.

The paratroopers had not been dropped in the wheat as was anticipated but, as mentioned, in the bluffs further north. The astonished farmer lad going for the milk cows in the dewy morn could see the men crashing the low trees and chutes hung up in the branches. However, it was not long before tin-hatted, camouflaged soldiers approached from the bluff and crossed the wheat field in battle order to join the glider force. Later everyone was relieved to hear that all jumpers had

got safely down without accident to limbs. All this time aircraft was zooming around in attack and defence and an hour later tough-looking camouflaged soldiers, fully armed and equipped even to machine guns were infiltrating the Fort St. John air station and officially capturing it from the defending air force garrison.

At 6:00 a.m. twelve miles distant two gliders had landed just north of the big Peace River Bridge and spilled another lot of stout Patricias to save the bridge before the enemy demolition could be carried out.

Now that the airport had been captured by the airborne troops there was fierce activity from Grande Prairie. The Dakotas had returned there and the Patricias had loaded the remainder of their fighting force with all their transport and supplies and flew them in to land and unload on the captured air field and continue the battle south.

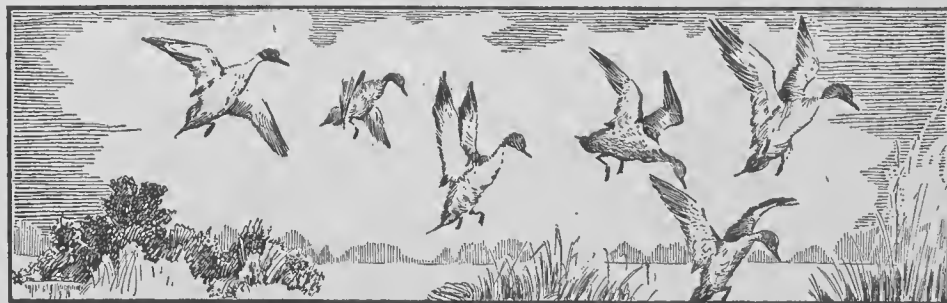
By the afternoon this joint operation had dropped 160 paratroopers, and the gliders an additional airborne force. They had loaded, flown, and unloaded 25 jeeps, eight three-quarter ton trucks, trailers, two anti-tank guns, as well as several tons of ammunition, gasoline, water and even hot food for their men.

The battle continued. The now grounded troops pushed on with their own transport and captured the village of Fort St. John. In the night the Pats moved 40 miles south and at 7:00 a.m. on August 7 disturbed the Sunday quiet of Dawson Creek, B.C., by capturing it—this Mile 1 of the Alaska Highway. It was another glorious morning. This beautiful, rolling, Dawson Creek country was looking its best in its summer wealth of magnificent crops. The farmers and people of Dawson Creek were an early rising lot of hopeful spectators but they were not treated to the thrilling airborne display of Fort St. John and had to console themselves with some spectacular low flying and the infantry attack.

That Sunday afternoon at Dawson Creek the Patricias assembled at rail head and left that night by special train just to carry on with their own training at Wainwright Camp. Presumably the hard working and efficient R.C.A.F. heaved a sigh of relief.

THE operation has since been criticized as showing a lack of adequate defence of our Northland but, to a mere spectator, it was a well-conceived and carried out manoeuvre over a magnificent country and should prove to be a valuable experience to our active forces. The daring and keenness of the troops and the co-operation between Army and Air Force was a pleasure and education to observe. Some say our fighting forces have an easy life in peacetime. If they think so they should just try and watch another "Exercise Eagle."

Col. La Nauze, author of the above article, was formerly Commanding Officer of the R.C.M.P.





A DANGER POINT — WHEN IMPLEMENT MEETS OBSTRUCTION

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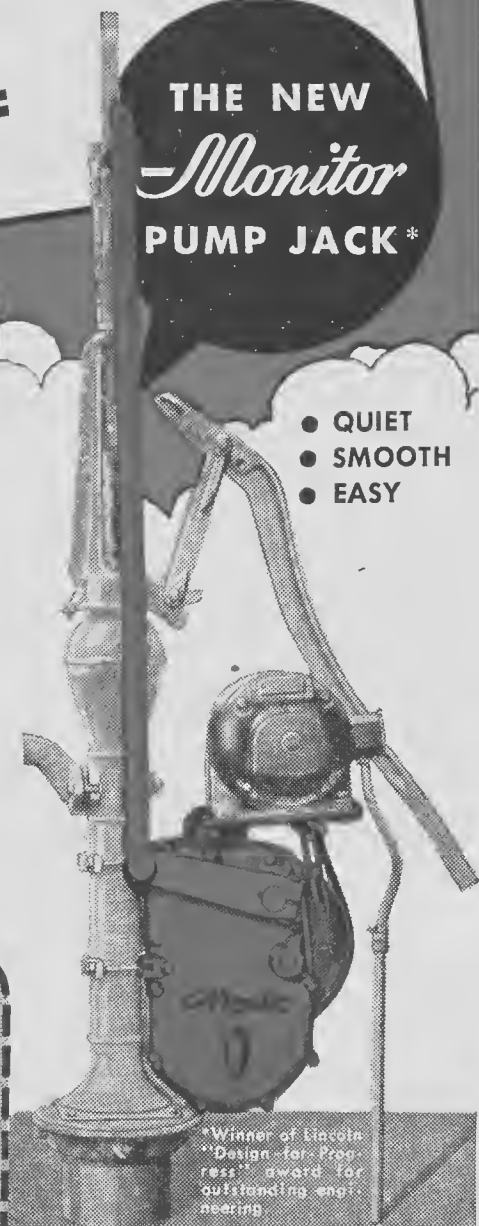
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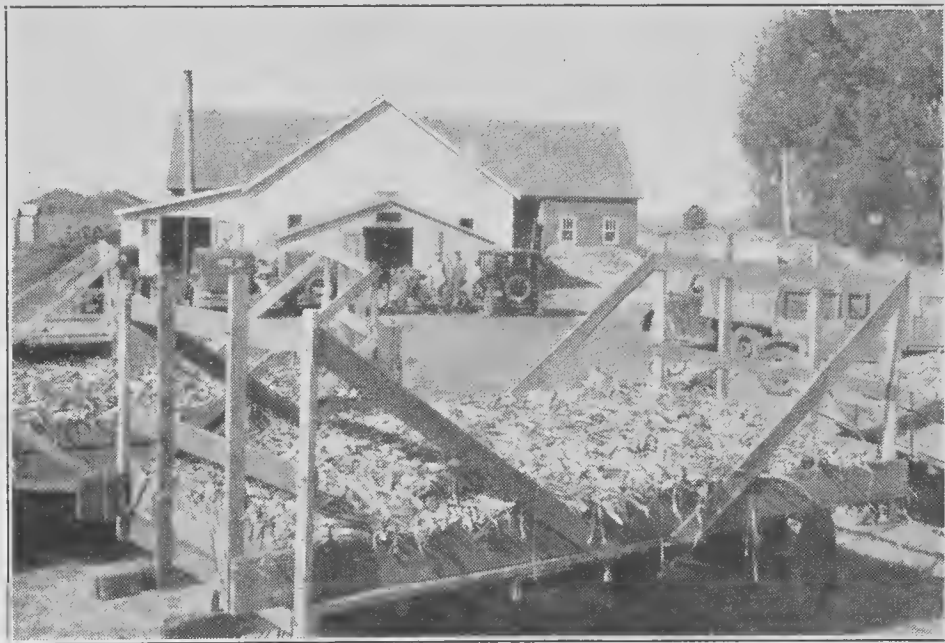
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HORTICULTURE



These loads of sweet corn were waiting for unloading at Pembina Co-operative Cannery, Reinfeld, Manitoba.

Storing Semi-Tender Plants

How to carry dahlias, gladioli, geraniums and other frost-tender plants over winter successfully

by W. R. LESLIE

THE home gardener of prairie Canada recognizes that warm summer gives way to cold winter. Among his most cherished plants are some that immigrated from milder zones. These require considerate treatment to have them in health and vigor for planting out again in the garden next April.

Dahlias, for example, remain in the ground until early frosts kill top growth. Then the stalks are severed about three inches above the ground. After a week the roots are dug with spading forks, digging about 16 inches from the stalks, to avoid injuring the spreading root system. The object is to pull up the entire clump without breaking any "necks" of the large, fleshy roots. (It is at the point where the root is attached to the old stalk that eyes develop to produce next season's plants.) Each clump should have the variety name attached by wire label.

After two or three hours in the sun, the roots are removed to a potato storage cellar having a temperature of about 35 to 45 degrees F. Dahlias enjoy the humidity found in such cool storages with earthen floors and moisture given off by the potato tubers. Some gardeners merely place the clumps on top of a pile of potatoes. Others pack them in shallow boxes of granulated acid peat which is dry or but lightly damp. Lacking a potato cellar, the root clumps are packed in boxes filled with peat, moss, granulated cork, vermiculite or dry sand, and set in a cool corner of the basement.

In late December the clumps are unpacked. Any rot is cut out and roots with broken necks thrown out. All cut surfaces are rubbed in sulphur. If shrivelling has begun, a fine spray is applied to make the covering material slightly moist. Periodic inspections are made, but well-ripened roots are expected to winter well without any further attention, following the December grooming and repair job.

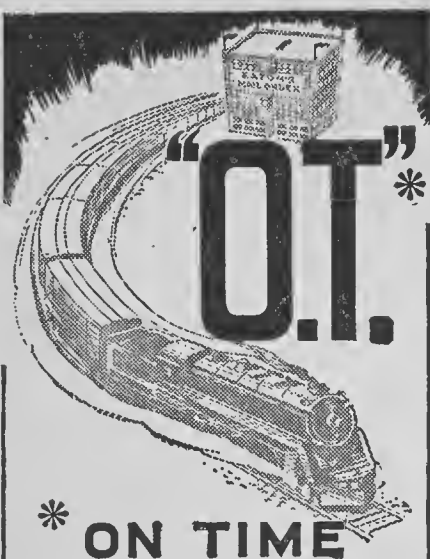
Gladioli are dug three or four weeks after flowering is over. Plants are dug on a warm, sunny day so that plants are in a dry condition. The tops

are clipped off to a length of one or two inches. The corms are then allowed to cure for two, three or four days in the sun, or in warm, dry air. Thereafter they are placed in flats or crates and stored in a room or warm cellar for a few weeks, when the new corms can be easily broken away from the tops of the old corms upon which they developed. Further gradual drying of the new corms continues for a week or two. Then they are treated against thrips. The old treatment was to place 100 corms in a paper bag, sprinkle in a teaspoonful of naphthalene flakes, tie and leave for three weeks. Then, either retrieve the flakes, or leave them, but perforate the bags by making numerous holes with a paper punch. This permits aeration. Store by tying to wall or place bags in trays in a coolish cellar at about 40 degrees F.

A newer treatment against insect enemies is to blow one ounce of five per cent DDT over a bushel of corms in such a way that the surfaces are evenly coated. Then store in four to six-pound perforated paper sacks.

Where disease is probable, the corms are soaked 15 to 20 minutes in late April in a solution of one ounce of new improved Ceresan and three teaspoonfuls of Graselli's Sticker in two and one-half imperial gallons of water. The two chemicals are first mixed with a wooden paddle. Continue stirring as the water is added. Hands are kept out of the chemicals. Fumes and dusts are not to be inhaled. After soaking, the corms are planted at once.

TUBEROUS begonias are accorded temperature treatment much like the canna, preferably at about 50 degrees F. The plants are dug up before hurtful frost arrives and it may be best to leave the balls of soil which adhere to the roots. Pot the plants individually or severally in a box of soil. Set them in a basement and water them sparingly, allowing the tops to dry down. This results in strength going back to the bulbs. Thus they mature favorably and have optimum chance of coming through the winter.



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In April the old roots are rubbed off with the old soil. Re-pot and bring up to light, warmth and water to begin the 1950 season. Some growers plant the roots bare of soil, in acid peat and sand, rather than potting them in soil.

Geraniums from the border are often lifted in late September, potted, the top cut back and grown on as a house plant during the winter. In February, cuttings three to four inches long are made from the ends of the branches. These are rooted and grown to furnish the garden in the coming season. Another method is to take cuttings in autumn before frost injury occurs and root these in the sunroom. A third method of carrying over stock is to dig the roots in September. Pack in boxes of soil and store in the basement in front of a south window. Light is needful for well-being. Water is withheld except for about one winter watering. Keeping the plants on the dry side is important, since much water makes for sappy growth and weakened stock. A fourth treatment, sometimes attempted, is to dig with the soil adhering to the roots and hang upside down on the ceiling of a potato cellar. This is of questionable effectiveness.

BIENNIALS such as foxglove, sweet william, Canterbury bells and pansies are grown from seed planted in May. Transplant to cold frames in June. In late October strew brush or cornstalks or other coarse litter over the plants to trap snowfall. In the spring transplant to the borders. It is not necessary to cellar-winter these subjects. In dry autumns the beds should have a thorough watering in October.

Roses to be cellar-wintered are dug with soil on the roots and planted in damp soil boxes or nail kegs about mid-October. All leaves are removed. Storage is in a cellar kept at a temperature of about 36 degrees F.

Fungus diseases may occur in storage. To keep down mildew and kindred troubles, dust plants freely with flowers of sulphur. Hollyhocks may benefit from dusting with Bordeaux mixture.

Nursery Inspection Needed

THE absence of any considerable amount of commercial fruit growing in the prairies is probably more responsible than any other factor, for the lack of adequate nursery inspection. Any substantial body of commercial growers would have demanded and secured nursery inspection long before this, especially of tree fruits, which take much longer to come into bearing.

Nevertheless, some inspection, especially as to type and variety, is highly advisable even without commercial fruit growing on a large scale. If the number of farmers and other amateur fruit growers could be totalled up, who have attempted to grow fruit for their own use, only to find that the fruit secured was different from the variety ordered, their number would run into thousands. Such a disappointment, as an enthusiastic gardener knows, is a severe one. This is particularly true in the prairie provinces where hardness is such an important factor that only a few carefully tested varieties can be recommended. To order trees of one of these approved varieties and receive something quite different is a discouragement to the

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"Woolens and fine washables especially are softer, fresher when washed with **VEL**".

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Did you ever consider how much time is spent each day in cleaning on your farm? It's probably many hours when you add the household cleaning chores (such as dishes and floors) to those around the farm — stables, barns, poultry houses, milking equipment, etc. One of the best ways to cut down on this cleaning time — and still do a thorough job — is to use Gillett's Lye. 3 teaspoons of Gillett's Lye to a gallon of water is an excellent cleanser for all household purposes. It lifts grimed-in dirt right out of floors, cuts through grease, and thoroughly deodorizes as it cleans. Even food baked on to cooking utensils is quickly and easily removed with Gillett's. The above solution strength may also be used to clean all farm buildings. It makes short work of the messiest jobs, and leaves equipment sanitary and fresh-smelling.

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Slow running or blocked-up drains are usually caused by an accumulation of grease in the waste pipe which is impossible to move by the old-fashioned plunger method. To clear blocked drains pour in 3 tablespoons of Gillett's Lye, leave for half an hour, then run through cold water. To keep drains running free use 2 tablespoons of Gillett's once a week. It's a good way to keep those plumbers' bills down! Full strength Gillett's is also an excellent cleaner for inside and outside toilets.

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Gillett's is particularly recommended for cleaning buildings housing animals or poultry. Besides being a highly effective cleanser, Gillett's actually disinfects as it cleans, killing many parasites, viruses, microbes and other agents that cause disease. Regular use of Gillett's to clean your farm buildings is a big step towards maintaining good health in your flocks and herds. Get Gillett's Lye next time you buy.

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gardener, and very often to his neighbors as well.

The fact that most of the fruit growers in the prairie provinces are amateurs, is responsible for the fact that quite a few of the nurserymen engaged in the sale of nursery stock are also amateurs. The older, more expert, and better established nurseries are seldom guilty of sending out wrongly named material. However, it is not only a case of nursery stock being untrue to variety. Sometimes the stock on which the named varieties are worked is unsuitable for this climate. The fact that the root stock on which a variety is worked may be better than the variety itself, does not alter the fact that, taken as a whole, the tree is no better than its root. Hardy stock able to support a vigorous-growing named variety is essential to the production of reliable nursery stock.

It is unfortunate that there is, in the prairie provinces, no association of nurserymen, through which the nurserymen themselves could unite in a request for nursery inspection. Failing this desirable condition it remains for the prairie governments through their departments of agriculture to meet the situation in some way before too long.

The work of inspection is not such as can be thrust upon the untrained shoulders of any extension horticulturist. Properly done, it requires an individual well-skilled in varietal differences and in knowledge of root stocks and general nursery practice. The layman is inclined to suggest that under uniform provincial legislation, nursery inspection could be jointly conducted more economically and efficiently than if each province maintained its own special service. Such a degree of co-operation is, however, seldom practicable. Meanwhile, the thousands of interested growers and gardeners in the prairie provinces must wait until such time as each government feels it is able to do something about a matter which has already been too much delayed.

Storing Vegetables

IT IS well to check the way in which vegetables have been stored for the winter, in order to avoid waste and the spread of disease organisms which may lead to decomposition and rotting.

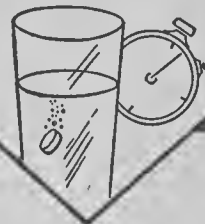
Potatoes, for example, store best from 38 to 40 degrees, since if they are stored at lower temperatures the flavor tends to become sweet, while higher temperatures encourage decay and earlier sprouting late in the season.

Potatoes and turnips store best in slatted bins which allow plenty of ventilation. Cabbage should be stored without the outer leaves, and on shelves or slatted bins. Beets and carrots keep best if placed in layers in dry or slightly moist sand. The slight moistening will help keep the roots from wilting. The temperature for root crops other than potatoes should be somewhat lower than 38 degrees if possible.

Onions store best in dry air and just above freezing, in shallow trays or boxes where there is plenty of ventilation. The onion bulbs will not store well unless they have been well dried before going into storage.

Squash and pumpkins also require dry, well-ventilated conditions, but a much higher temperature. Storage on racks in a well-ventilated room, at as nearly as possible to 55 degrees, is best for them all.

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The Stimulus Of Strophanthus

An African plant shows promise of yielding a product that will give relief to sufferers from arthritis and some forms of rheumatic fever

by WHEELER McMILLEN

REPEATEDLY it has been pointed out that among the unexamined plants of the world there are likely many whose usefulness to man remains unknown. I have frequently remarked that some such plant may contain a cure for the common cold. Others may bear within themselves substances as useful to mankind as rubber, which no one thought about or wanted until its usefulness began to be discovered.

A striking bit of evidence on this point has lately been conspicuous in the news.

Medical scientists discovered that a material called cortisone provided an amazing relief from arthritis and forms of rheumatic fever. Cortisone was obtainable, but at the price of great effort. Another similar product, adrenocorticotrophic hormone, called ACTH, brings similar results, and is similarly costly. Starting from a small fraction of ox bile a chemical process requiring 37 complicated steps results in a yield of about one per cent of the original raw material. It was calculated that the daily dose to take care of one arthritic patient per day would consume the ox bile from 40 cattle. According to a New York "Times" article by William L. Laurence it would take 14,600 cattle to supply the dose needed to relieve one patient for a year. "On this basis," says Laurence, "the 7,000,000 arthritics in the United States would require the astronomical figure of 100 billion head of cattle, more than 10 times the size of the entire cattle herd in this country."

While these facts were still fresh it became known that an African plant, *Strophanthus sarmentosus* is believed to bear seeds from which cortisone can be extracted much more abundantly by many fewer steps.

The importance of this plant was so obvious that unusual consequences immediately followed the revelation. President Truman learned the story, I believe, direct from Laurence of the Times. The President called in Secretary Brannan and Oscar Ewing, and

directed them to get something under way forthwith. The United States Public Health Service transferred \$10,000 of National Institute of Health funds to the Department of Agriculture. The Department dispatched Dr. John T. Baldwin, first to go to Switzerland to check certain essential facts with scientists there, and then to Liberia and western Africa to collect as many as possible of some 50 known strains of the plant.

Strophanthus sarmentosus was first brought to the United States in 1914 by the Department of Agriculture, and some has been growing in Florida. The strains now here were introduced in 1927. The only known use was to produce strophantin, a heart stimulant which is not widely used. Strains were sent to Cuba, Puerto Rico and the Canal Zone.

Dr. Thomas Lewis, vice-president of Penick and Company, the largest botanical drug company, points out that several years may be required to get all the necessary facts before cortisone from *strophanthus* can be supplied in quantities required. No one yet knows which strains will yield the most desirable seed, what gathering and drying process will be most productive, and what cultivation methods and what areas will yield the most profitable quantities.

Nevertheless, the fact stands that an objective of exceedingly desirable character has been established. Doubtless every effort will be put forth to make cortisone abundant enough to supply cheaply the need of every arthritic sufferer.

This dramatic development lends new emphasis to the fact that growing around the world are still some quarter to a third of a million species of plants about whose merits nothing is known. This discovery ought to convince a great many more people that the vegetable kingdom must be explored as fully and rapidly as resources permit. To do so might provide better defense than the billions going into arms, and more wealth than the hundreds of millions being spent to maintain commodity prices.



Many livestock men deplore the lack of more large flocks of sheep in Canada, but recognize that they will not come until Canadians develop more of a craving for lamb and mutton.

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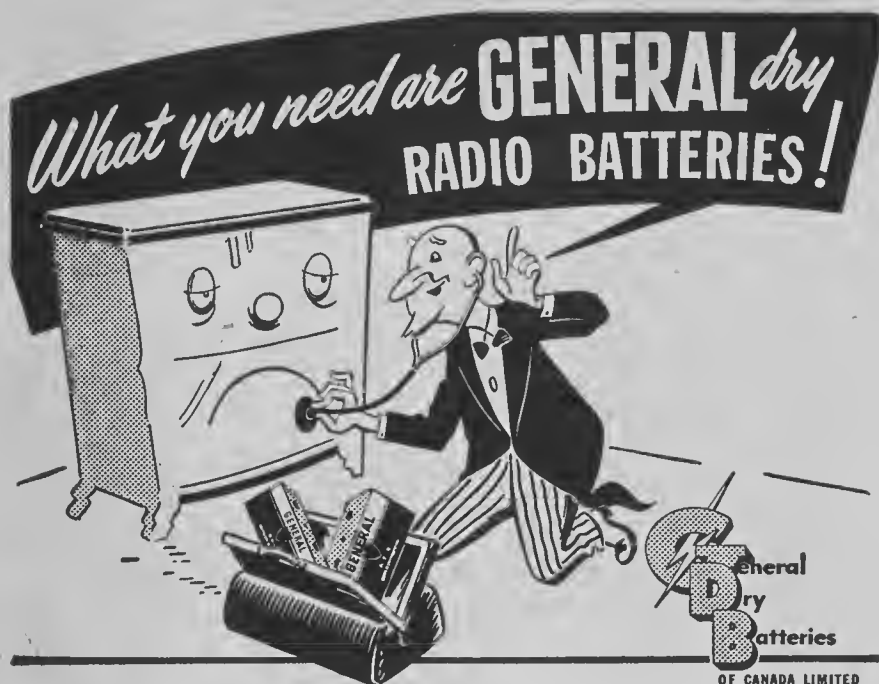
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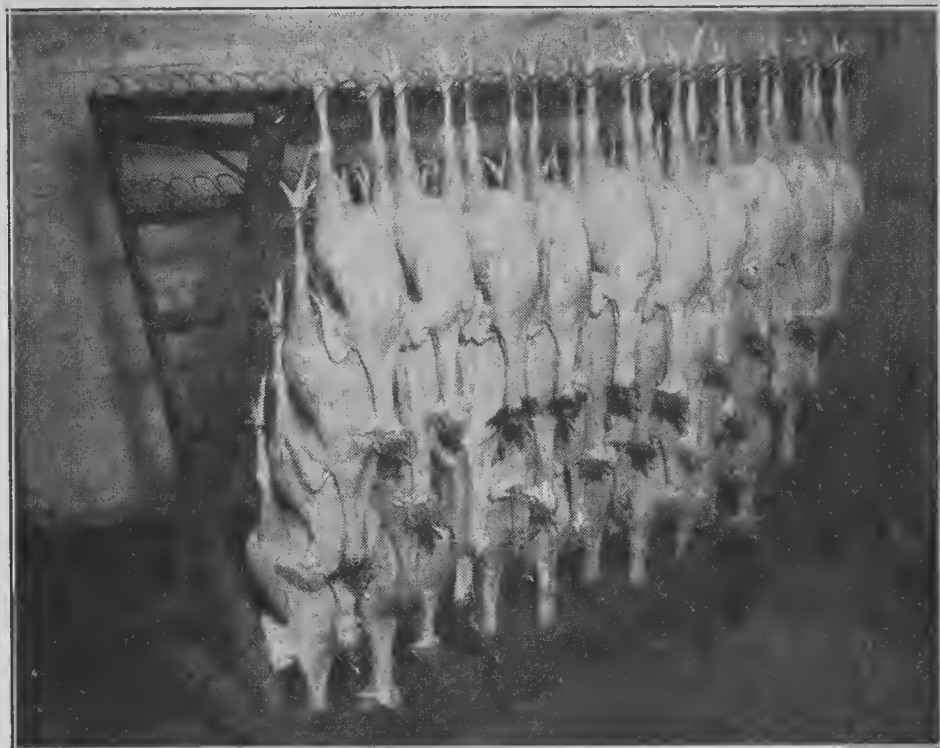
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POULTRY



This picture, taken at the Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa, suggests the most desirable method of storing plucked poultry.

Laying Flock Nutrition

WHEN pullets reach the laying house they already represent a considerable investment in work and feed. Unless a large part of this investment is to be lost, egg production must continue at a reasonably high level, and this means that the laying hens must receive a balanced ration.

A balanced ration is one that supplies all of the nutrients necessary to perform a particular function—in this case the laying of eggs. Farm grains do not supply all of the nutrients required. Some additional protein, minerals and vitamins are required.

If good quality alfalfa and skim-milk are available on the farm they comprise a cheap supply of some of these nutrients. A good grade of fish oil will supply the vitamin D needed for indoor conditions. During cold weather the birds will not drink enough milk to supply their protein requirement and it is necessary to feed a laying concentrate, or balancer. Fresh, clean drinking water is essential, and limestone grit and oyster shell should be readily available to the birds at all times.

Ventilation Shafts

GOOD ventilation is important in poultry houses. The ventilators may become plugged with cobwebs and dirt and fail to operate at maximum efficiency. This is often caused by the use of slats or louvres on the top openings. In order to allow free movement of air, shafts should be open on all sides and be covered with a good-sized cap.

It has been pointed out by F. J. Higginson, Poultry Branch, Alberta Department of Agriculture, that ventilation shafts should be cleaned at least twice a year. This can be readily accomplished by taking a rope twice the length of the shaft, tying enough sacks in the centre to fill the shaft snugly, and, with one person on the roof and another in the house, drawing the sacks up and down inside the shaft. A surprising amount of dirt will be removed.

If shafts are not insulated from the ceiling to the roof it is possible for them to become plugged with frost, as a result of condensation of moist air.

Insulation of the upper portion can be accomplished by nailing one inch by three inch strips to each corner, tacking building or tar paper around them, and filling in the space with wood shavings.

Poultry Persistence

SCIENTISTS all over the world have been studying the inheritance of egg production for many years. Findings made by Hays and Goodale, Mass., have been generally accepted. They have established that high annual egg production in a flock depends on five main characteristics. The first of these is early sexual maturity. The second is intensity of laying—long periods of laying with short breaks in between. The third is the absence of a winter pause—a condition usually due to partial or complete moulting. The fourth feature is the absence or low rate of broodiness. The fifth is persistency—the ability to lay well into the fall before moulting, and so giving a long laying period in the pullet year.

For all of these factors to be found in one flock is almost unknown. Of the five it has been shown that the most important single factor is persistency.

In an experiment at the Massachusetts station 427 Rhode Island Red dams were divided into three groups according to the length of their pullet-laying year. The annual production of their 2,311 daughters was subsequently recorded, and it was definitely established that the daughters of dams that had high persistency inherited the characteristic to a marked degree.

Fortunately persistency is a characteristic which can be easily recorded, even in a flock which is not being trapped, so that any breeder can select for persistency in his flock. Persistency, as indicated, refers to the length of the laying year. Pullets hatched at the normal time will start laying in September or October, and if persistent, should still be laying the following August or September.

Yearling hens which are still laying at this time of year are likely to be the best in the flock. Many producers select their breeders for the following season at this time of year, and it has proved to be a good method. Also, the procedure is not difficult, because by

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handling the yearling birds it is possible to tell which are in lay. These can be marked with bands and used for breeding the following season. This technique greatly simplifies the improvement of the flock.

Rotate The Runs

NOTHING improves land so much as letting pigs or chickens use it. Also the animals or fowl have a better chance if they have clean, new ground to run on. The best garden I ever saw on the prairie had been a pig-yard.

Here we only have one acre, but every year we move the pen and fence for the chickens. Now we have strawberries on what was hen-yard three years ago and there is not a grass root in it. Last year's run was used for potatoes this year, yielding 12 bags of clean potatoes. These took three first prizes at the fair as well. The two-year-old hen run was garden this year and will be strawberries next spring. It is a pleasure to work because not a grass root is left in it and the soil breaks up so mellow and nice.

This next spring we will fence the old strawberry patch for the chickens. After a year we can plant it to raspberries or potatoes and be sure of having clean ground to work. We only raise three pigs, but move their pen every spring. I have the loveliest rhubarb growing in the old yard.—Jenny Pringle, B.C.

Feeding Growing Turkeys

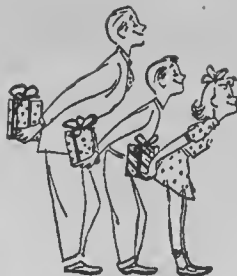
WHEN turkeys are well started there is often a temptation to reduce costs by using a less expensive feed. This should be done with some care. A well-balanced ration is the cheapest, because birds will make the greatest gains per pound of feed if the ration is balanced.

A popular practice is to buy a commercial growing concentrate, and add whole grains in the proportions recommended on the bag to make a growing mash. The concentrates supply proteins, vitamins and minerals not found in sufficient quantities in farm grains.

Young turkeys should be changed from starting mash to growing mash at about eight weeks of age. After they have been on straight growing mash for three or four weeks, whole grains can be added to the diet, either separately in hoppers or mixed with the mash. In order to accustom young turkeys to whole grains, a few whole oats are often added to the starter mash for a few weeks before the change-over to grower mash, and some whole oats may be substituted for the ground oats in the grower mash as well. A 50-50 mixture of oats and wheat makes a good mixture for whole grain feeding, though turkeys do not appear to relish whole barley. Whole grain should not be fed too heavily. The amount can be increased gradually until, by the time the turkeys reach maturity, they are getting about 50 per cent whole grain, the rest of the diet being growing mash.

Gains are no more economical when the birds are fed twice a day than when feed is in front of them at all times. An abundance of clean, fresh water is an important item. Gravel or insoluble grit, as well as oyster shell, should be available.

If green feed is scarce or has become tough and dry, it is advisable to add alfalfa meal to the mash at the rate of six or seven per cent.



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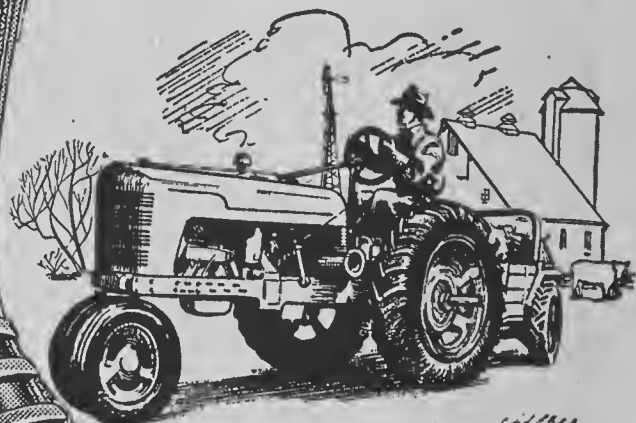
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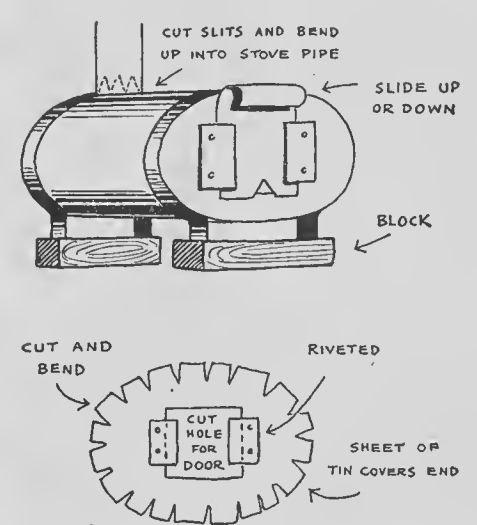
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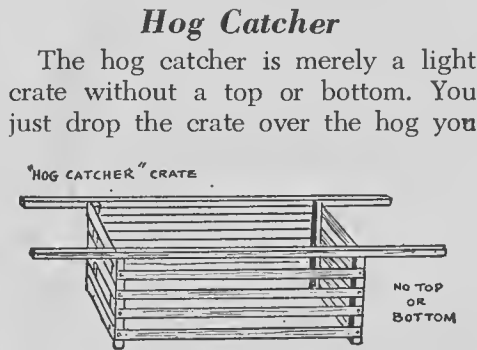
Timely preparations lighten the burden of winter

Heater For The Cutter

This heater is made from an old automobile gasoline tank which is sawn in half. The front is cut in an oval-shape from a piece of fairly heavy gauge sheet iron and should be one and one-half inches larger than the end of the tank. It is notched with tin snips to allow bending the edge back over the tank. Cut a square hole in the front for a door and rivet on two guides for the tin slide. The door is notched in the bottom in the form



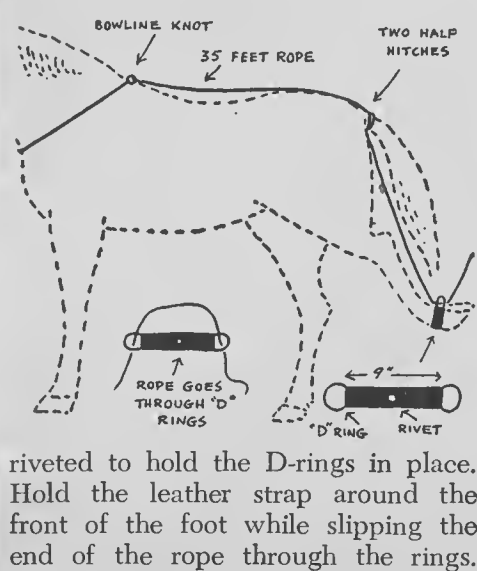
of a V to allow for draft. The hole for the smoke pipe can be made by cutting a section of the top like a star and bending up the points to hold the pipe. Mount the stove on two blocks and fasten it securely with the straps which held it in the automobile. This will prevent it from sliding around and is also a safety feature.—F.P.



want and walk it away in the crate. It is convenient for moving sows into farrowing pens, walking hogs to the scales or up a loading chute. The size of the box depends on the size of animals to be handled.—M.O.S.

Safety Rope—Horse-Shoeing

Tie the rope around the horse's neck and place two half-hitches around the head of the tail. This prevents the rope from slipping off to the side. The strap for the foot can be made from a piece of leather about 19 inches long, with the ends folded over to the centre and



Thread the rope through a ring in the ceiling and give it a quick and steady pull to raise the foot of the horse before he has a chance to fight it. The horse should be tied in a narrow stall and will not be able to strike out or fight while being shod.—A.S.

Frost Protector For Bit

To protect a horse's mouth from sticking to the bit in frosty weather, a piece of inner tube about 10 inches long and three inches wide may be wrapped around it. Cut the tubing to the shape shown and put the ring at one end of the bit through one of the slots in the guard. Wrap the narrow part of the tubing spirally along the bit, putting the ring at the other end through the slot. The flaps at the ends of the tubing should be on the inside of the rings when the bit is in the mouth of the horse. The size of tubing required will depend on the size of the bit.—J.G.C.

10"

INNER TUBE

3"

Protecting Axe Heads

A guard for axe heads can be made by folding a piece of inner tube. Hold it in place with another band of tubing. This guard will give protection to the axe and will also prevent it from doing damage to other things.—R.M.

BAND OF INNER TUBE

PIECE OF INNER TUBE

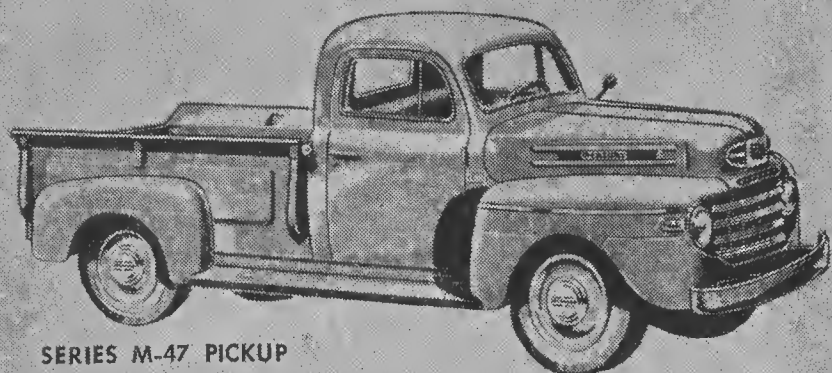
Stone Boat Serves As A Sled

A stone boat with a tongue attached is very convenient as a small sled for choring around. The tongue makes it safer, easier to steer and able to be backed up by the horses. Cut a three to four-inch post the right length to fit between the runners. Drill a hole through its centre from end to end. If a long auger is not at hand, bore in from both ends and burn the rest through with red-hot rods. Use at least half-inch rod and draw it up tightly with large washers at each end, on the outsides of the runners. Next saw a notch at the centre of the post and bolt on the tongue. Add heavy braces to each side as shown.—M.D.N.

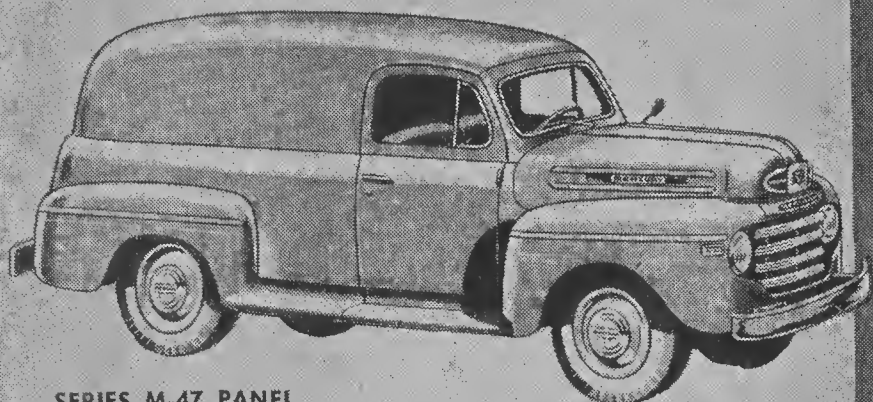
DRILL TIRES

Stock Tank Leaks

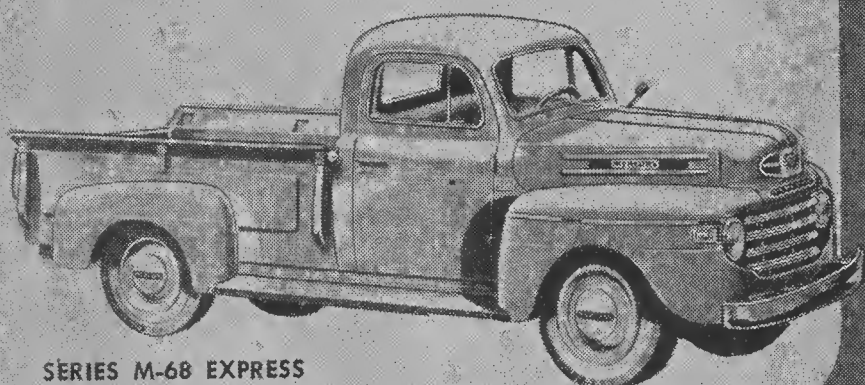
To fix a galvanized stock tank that leaks at the bottom, you can put about three inches of concrete in the bottom of the tank. Reinforce it each way with a strip of woven wire fencing to keep it from cracking. The concrete will shrink slightly in drying and it will probably be necessary to force some heavy roofing putty into the crack between the concrete and the sides.—I. W. D.



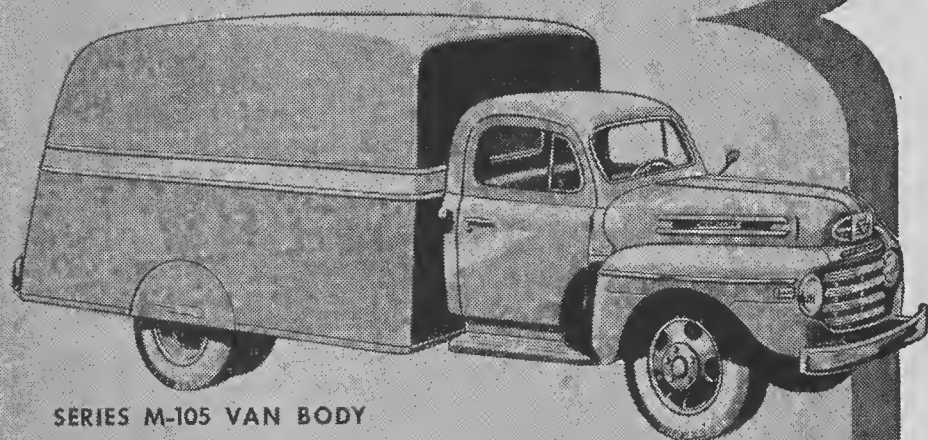
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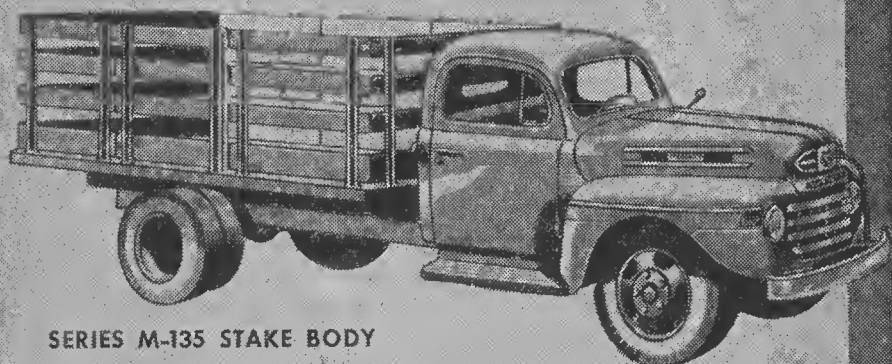
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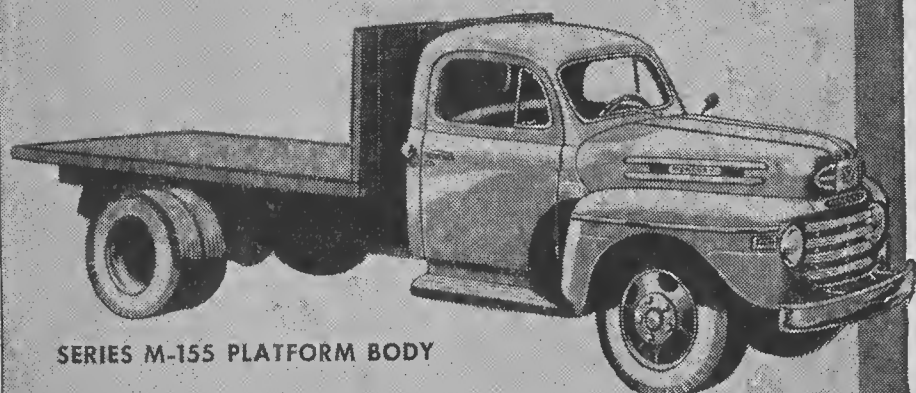
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FARM YOUNG PEOPLE



Any chance that offers is a good time to nap when on the show circuit.

For Better Junior Clubs

Club leader says many people must co-operate to make a good club

MILLAR CRAIG, North Battleford, Saskatchewan, has been leader of the Iffley Baby Beef Club since it was started seven years ago. He would be the last to argue that its success is due to his activities. He argues, and others in the club would agree, that it takes a lot of people in a district to make a good club. A good leader alone is not enough.

Before there was any club in the district, Johnny Allen, local agricultural representative, came out and began to talk club to some of the people in the district. Charlie Stewart, who used to teach school, was also active, as was Millar Craig. There were a lot of good breeders, good cattle, and enthusiastic young people in the district, and soon the club was formed. Craig was chosen as leader.

"The big boost at first came from Johnny Allen and Charlie Stewart and then the parents just followed on," said Mr. Craig. "If you do not have the community with you you might just as well forget about having your club," he continued. "Another thing that helps keep a lot of calves on feed is that we divide our prize money right down to the last one in the class."

Probably other clubs have had just as beneficial an influence as the Iffley Baby Beef Club. Nevertheless, it has done a lot for the district young people. Club members meet extension workers who come out from the university, and some members have taken the next opportunity to visit the campus. Once becoming familiar with it a number have gone back to take agricultural short courses. The club as a whole undertakes some interesting projects. One year the club went to the Saskatoon Fat Stock Show and Sale. Another year they spent a day at the Saskatoon Exhibition; and on still another occasion they spent the day at the Meadow Lake Stampede. During the summer they always try to have a get-together and picnic, and before the local achievement day they get together for livestock judging at local farms. Tours around better farms in the vicinity have been arranged. During the winter months the club holds about one dance a month.

The young people appear to be getting a lot out of the club. They are also showing a pretty good type of

calf, of which more than 20 are generally brought out. There have been as high as 40. The calves are weighed and the heavier calves go into one class and the lighter into another. This year there will be a third class for beginners. This will mean that those who are showing for the first time will not have to compete with veteran showmen 19 and 20 years of age. The top two calves from each class are judged in order to select a grand and a reserve champion.

After the local show all of the calves are taken to the North Battleford Fat Stock Show and Sale and are shown in their respective classes—800 pounds and over, and 800 pounds and under. Last year calves from the Iffley Club held first and second positions in both of these classes. The Iffley Club has also won the inter-club competition for the best 12 calves from any one club exhibiting, ever since the competition was started four years ago.

"If we have a good club it is because everyone co-operates," said Mr. Craig. "If we ever want to do anything everyone is in there helping."

Training Club Teams

JUDGING cattle takes a lot of teaching and experience. The right kind of training will speed up the business of learning and it is often surprising how quickly club members can learn new angles about placing classes, when they are given some training by the people who really know.

This was forcibly illustrated in northwest Saskatchewan this year. The supervisor and several of the agricultural representatives in the area arranged for the teams from seven of the beef clubs in the district to visit different stock farms, in order to gain judging practice. They visited the herds of such well known breeders as J. S. Palmer and Sons, Marsden; S. Berry, Lashburn; E. Waring, Nunebor; I. Barnsley and Sons, Rivercourse, Alberta, and L. Swanstrom of Artland. This gave the members experience in judging herds of Angus, Shorthorn and Hereford cattle.

The value of the training showed up at the inter-club competitions in Saskatoon. Teams from this area stood first, second and fifth for the provincial competitions.

Our Pet Skunks

Continued from page 12

scratched under the chin, and he showed his contentment by purring loudly. As he grew older, he came several times a day to the kitchen door and scratched and mewed to be let in. He seemed to tire of the boisterous quarreling and tumbling of the others. On coming into the kitchen, he went straight to his own little saucer under the end of the stove where milk always awaited him. Then he curled up under the stove and slept for an hour or more. When ready to leave he'd scratch at the door and ask to go.

The biggest skunk kitten was a bad one. He was more savage, more quick-tempered, more greedy than all the others. He was the bully and the leader. He didn't like petting or handling, even when he was so small he could easily lie in a person's hand. Where the others walked daintily and carried their plummy little tails curled saucily upward, he stamped warningly and his tail always looked aggressive and challenging.

SCENT glands in young skunks are undeveloped until about five or six months of age. His, of course, developed first. He seemed to take a devilish delight in shooting, first, his



One of McDonald's skunks.

old enemies the kittens. The dogs got their punishment right in the face and eyes. The old turkey gobbler, red-faced tyrant of the farmyard, met him at the height of his triumph and was sent reeling and reeking to hide under the hen roosts. The farmer's son who went out, dressed in his Sunday clothes to catch one of their wild pussies to bring in and show off to the visiting school ma'am, retired in disgrace to the wood shed. His Sunday clothes had to be buried.

Before any of the dreadful threats directed towards him had been carried out, he left and returned to the woods. By the first of October the others had followed him. Nearly every day, until deep snow came, the gentlest one returned for milk and petting. One warm day in early spring there was a scratching at the door, and there he was. He refused to come in but he accepted a saucer of milk on the doorstep, purred happily at the petting and stroking of his glossy back, lifted his chin to be scratched, then toddled away. He returned often that summer, but his visits grew further and further apart, until finally, the next winter, he came no more.

Neighbors still say, "I met one of McDonald's skunks right on top of the Big Hill last night." When asked how they know it's McDonald's, their reply always is the same, "Because it wouldn't get out of the way and I had to shift into low and go around it."

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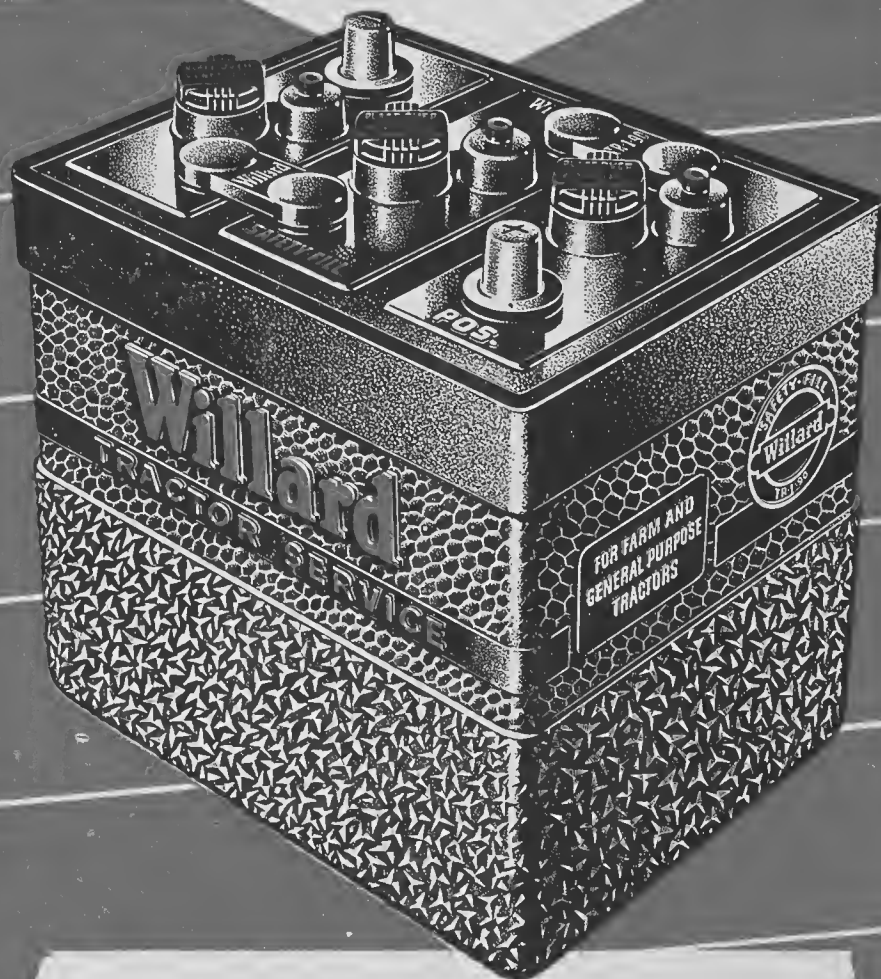


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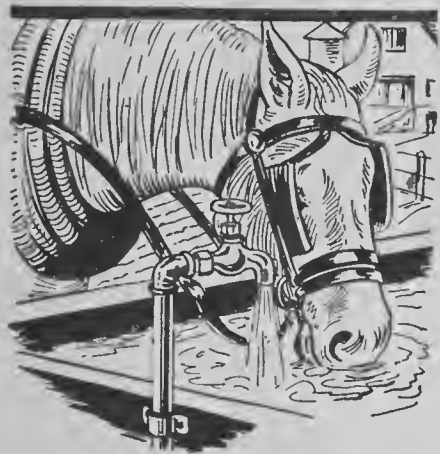
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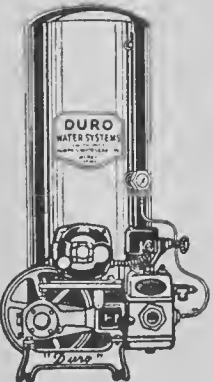
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The Day We Raised The Tower

CHARLES, my other half, suddenly announced at breakfast one morning, that it was time we gave the house and the conglomeration of buildings that constitute the average farm the "New Look."

I asked him what he meant by such an expression. "Well," he said, "for the last ten years you have been continually moaning about the inadequate and ancient methods of illumination we have to put up with at present, and that you wished you had your house looking like Mrs. Caldwell's—all lit up by electric lights, the washing machine turned by power, also the dusting and sweeping by the same method. Well, the time has arrived when from now on we shall proceed to develop that 'New Look.'"

That was his method of informing me that the equipment, tower, propellers and all the paraphernalia necessary to erect a modern wind electric had arrived, and we were to proceed

The family concentrated its labor forces, represented by three generations, but like an army of unequal allies it developed some grave weaknesses

by G. H. HERBERT

meant work at the forge which Charles had concocted out of an old separator. The ends of the guy wires, with hooks attached, had to be sunk in the holes and buried in cement. These holes were located north, south, east and west of the base of the tower at a distance of 60 feet.

Then things started to happen—pacing, measuring, calculating, so as to get the wires in position, complicated by having to avoid the garage, house, clothesline, woodpile and fence, and any other unforeseen obstacles. Eventually everything was completed, hooks buried, holes filled with cement, attachments put in



Grandma yelled, "I just can't look," and bolted for the garage.

with erection. The preliminary arrangements for this great event dated back to sometime in June, when it was arranged that the family forces would be concentrated when the day for action came. Charles sent out his S.O.S. call for assistance, and early next morning the reinforcements arrived in force as arranged. These consisted of grandpa, grandma, Charles' sister and her better half, at least that is what he claimed he was, with myself and the three kiddies as reserves.

Then the battle commenced. The instructions for raising the tower had specified that it should be raised first, and the attachments were to be carried up separately and then attached piece by piece. Charles got a brain wave. Why not put on all the equipment and fasten it while the tower lay flat on the ground, and with the assistance of the tractor and a cable, raise the whole thing up bodily, thereby saving a lot of extra work and climbing? It sounded all right, and, so to work.

There were five guy wires, consequently five holes to be dug, three feet deep. Hooks for each one of these had to be twisted and bent, which

place, also a cement base for the tower to stand on—and so to bed.

THE next day all hands assembled for the fray bright and early. Imagine the scene: The top of the tower and attachments resting on the trailer. The trailer attached to the tractor; the rope fastened to the top of the tower ready for the pull. Net, Charles' sister and myself, were on one guy wire east of the house. Tom, her husband, was attached to another opposite to us but down in the bush. The trailer, with the top of the tower, was squeezed between the fence and the chicken house, all ready for the critical moment.

"The best laid schemes of mice and men gang aft a-gley," as Bobby Burns said. They did. The cement in the holes had not set properly and these had to be dug out and refilled. As an incidental detail two of the kids, Gloria and Rickey, with their own idea of helping the cause along, decided to investigate the solidifying propensities of cement. Gloria jumped in one of the holes. She got stuck and couldn't get out. Rickey ran to the barn to get Charles. I viewed the

scene from one of the bedroom windows and just laughed, as the holes were not very deep. Meantime Gloria was developing hysterics, so I hastened to investigate. I couldn't pull her out. Charles did, but it made me think of the poor little girl who perished inside a 15-inch pipe that I had read about somewhere in the States.

BY unflagging industry we got the second lot of cement laid and by next day it had set firmly. In between drinks Charles had laid a cement shelf, for the batteries to rest on. The gang assembled to go into action around ten-thirty, and while the male of the species made a final check of the position, the females prepared dinner. After dinner we were all set to go when the enemy made a flanking attack. A bush fire had developed in the offing, some distance away it is true, but close enough to be dangerous if neglected. Grandpa was sent out to investigate and the rest of the gang prepared to raise the wind-jammer.

The critical moment arrived and the pull began. Then it happened. Everyone was tense. So was the rope. It was the only one that could not take it. It snapped at the first strain, which was a good thing in a way, as who knows what would have happened if it had broken while the tower had been raised any height.

This called for a council of war. Ropes had to be spliced and doubled, and attached to a steel cable. We could not use steel all the way as we did not have enough of it. The second big moment arrived and everything went off smoothly, and with every phut, phut of the engine, the tower was raised to an angle of about 30 degrees.

Grandma, who had been pressed into service while grandpa was investigating the fire, got panicky. Her job was to observe if the tower was keeping straight, veering neither left nor right during erection. She yelled, "I just can't look. If it's crooked, it'll just have to stay crooked," and bolted for the garage from which she viewed the rest of the proceedings.

Grandpa arrived back and reported that the fire was under control and took over the place vacated by grandma. Phut, phut, off again. Charles then noticed that Net and I were outdoing Tom in the tug of war, so he stopped the engine again and cautioned us. Also, he found some more rope for Tom. Then starting again, with about six more phuts of the engine, with starts and stops in between, the tower was upright.

Grandma retrieved herself for her ignominious retreat by arriving on the scene with iced cold drinks and lunch. It took some time to get everything adjusted and wired, as we were short of wire, and Charles and Tom had to do some splicing. Supper at 8:00 p.m. and again to bed.

That's how the farm got the "New Look," house and buildings became electrified, but at times during the process I did not know whether I was going to survive the ordeal, for you have to be quite a shock absorber when you try to erect towers with a crew of amateurs consisting of three women, three men and three kids.

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Stability and Plenty

Continued from page 7

was, in part, to "establish prices to farmers at a level that will give agricultural commodities a purchasing power with respect to articles that farmers buy, equivalent to the purchasing power of agricultural commodities in the base period."

This action followed the recommendations of a national conference of representative farmers and farm leaders called in March 1933, by the new president, Franklin D. Roosevelt. Plans and proposals for farm relief then put forward and discussed were said to have numbered as many as five hundred. The Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1933—commonly called Triple-A—specified that the new secretary of agriculture, Henry A. Wallace, should use the period August 1909 to July 1914, as the base period for determining a fair parity of prices. It also authorized the following methods for achieving parity: (1) Production adjustment of any or all, of seven basic commodities, wheat, cotton, corn, hogs, rice, tobacco, and milk and its products; (2) benefit payments to producers who co-operated by signing contracts, the cost of these to be met by a tax on the first processing of a domestically-consumed commodity; (3) marketing agreements between the secretary and the processors and handlers of farm commodities; and (4) the setting up of a field organization of local farmers so that they might have a hand in shaping and administering the farm program.

For a time the Act seemed to work well. Cash farm income increased 58 per cent in two years. Then, in 1936, the Supreme Court outlawed the processing tax, whereupon Congress in the same year quickly passed the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act, which changed emphasis and eliminated direct production control. By 1937 the bad drought years were over, and the largest production in history was harvested from the 53 leading crops. Price depression followed and surpluses were apparent in wheat, cotton, corn and other commodities. Again Congress came to the rescue, meeting in special session and passing the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938.

THIS new attempt introduced three new features into farm policy. It provided for "parity payments" to producers of five basic crops, to help bridge the gap between market prices and parity prices. It introduced the "acreage allotment" and "marketing quota," which, together with commodity loans, constituted the "ever-normal granary" program. The Act also continued the farmers' conservation program. Thus, a wheat grower, for example, might be faced with a wheat acreage allotment (still valid and to be used for the crop of 1950), in which case he was allotted his individual acreage by his county organization. His actual acreage might be anything he liked, but if he kept within his allotment he became a co-operator and was eligible for price supports, if any, and for parity payments, if any.

The Secretary must, even now, under the Act of 1938, proclaim national marketing quotas for cotton, corn, wheat, rice and tobacco, when supplies of these commodities reach certain levels. When this happens, the

Secretary determines how much of the commodity should be marketed during the year and this quantity is then broken down, first by states and counties, and then into individual acreage allotments. Producers of the commodity then vote in a referendum. If two-thirds favor the quota, it goes into effect; and if the grower markets more than his quota he faces a stiff penalty per unit of excess sales. Growers receive no price support if they do not, as a group, favor the quota once it is proclaimed. If they do favor it, they receive the amount of price support in effect at the time. If an individual disapproves when the group favors the quota, his price support is much less (now 54 per cent instead of the full support at 90 per cent of parity).

The 1938 wheat grower, as a co-operator, would also receive a conservation payment for putting any land taken out of wheat to conservation uses; he would receive a parity payment based on the normal production of his farm wheat acreage allotment; and, if he moved his wheat to market under quota regulations, he would be eligible for a crop loan. In addition, Federal crop insurance on his wheat acreage allotment was available to him.

World War II brought a greatly increased demand for food to be shipped overseas. Increased production had to be secured quickly. In July 1941, therefore, the Steagall Amendment to the wartime Stabilization Act, required the Secretary of Agriculture to support prices by loans, purchases and other methods at a level of not less than 85 per cent of parity (now 90 per cent) on all non-basic commodities for which the Secretary proclaimed the need for increased production. Early in the war, too, Congress decided that basic commodities—corn, wheat, rice, tobacco and peanuts for nuts—should be supported by loans at 90 per cent of parity, and cotton at 92½ per cent. These provisions with regard to the "Steagall" commodities, of which there were twelve, expired at the end of 1948, except as they re-appeared in farm legislation passed last year.

DURING the war years not many American farmers had occasion to worry about prices. Cash receipts from farm marketings rose from eight to more than 30 billion dollars. The ratio of prices received by farmers, to prices paid by farmers, was as 120 to 84. Per capita food consumption in the United States increased by 16 per cent. The realized net income of farm operators swelled from \$4.8 billion to more than \$20 billion. Under such circumstances, farm prices were generally well above parity until the end of 1947, and there was a strong demand for everything the farmer could produce.

The Steagall Amendment of 1941 had provided high support prices, which were to continue for two full years after the legal end of the war. Congress, both House and Senate, was prepared to concede the need for a long-range farm program. If the Steagall Amendment was allowed to expire without further legislative action, the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 would again become operative, which would satisfy no one. Both House of Representatives and Senate, therefore, entered into a careful study of the farm problem in 1947. The agricultural committees of both

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bodies held extensive hearings in Washington and throughout the country. The House requested and had printed a careful study by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, of trends and factors relating to the long-range prospect for agriculture. The subcommittee appointed by the Senate Committee did an equally thorough and admirable job in its examination of all aspects of farm policy.

Commendable as these efforts were, they failed to produce a satisfactory result. What is known as the Agricultural Act of 1948 is a compromise bill in two parts, each of which is diametrically opposed to the other in its philosophical approach to price support. One part, a stop-gap measure sponsored by the House, proposed continuation of wartime fixed supports for two years in respect to most products. As finally incorporated in the Act, it provides that the price support of basic commodities shall be continued at 90 per cent of parity until June 30, 1950, and that support for milk and its products, hogs, chickens and eggs shall be continued until the end of 1949. Other "Steagall" commodities, such as potatoes, soybeans and flaxseed for oil, dry beans and peas, turkeys and sweet potatoes, are supported at between 60 and 90 per cent of parity at the discretion of the Secretary of Agriculture.

PART II of the Act is scheduled to come into effect January 1950. It is the contribution of the Senate and it provides for flexible supports based on 75 per cent of parity for the five basic crops: corn, wheat, cotton, rice and peanuts. Normal supply of these crops is defined, and supports drop one per cent with each increase of two per cent above normal supply until a minimum of 60 per cent is reached at 130 per cent of supply. The supports increase with decreases in supply, until they reach 90 per cent of parity at 70 per cent of supply.

Quotas are again provided for, when the market price of a basic commodity falls to 66 per cent of parity, or when supply rises to more than 20 per cent above normal. If growers favor the quota, the support price of the commodity will be 20 per cent above the market price at the beginning of the marketing year, but may not go above 90 per cent of parity. If growers do not favor the quota, price support is only 50 per cent of parity.

A new parity price formula will also become effective under Part II. It will still be based on 1909-14, that is, the general relationship between prices paid and prices received by farmers of that period, will be retained. Changes induced by mechanization, improved varieties and consumer demand during the intervening years, however, will be reflected for individual products, by relating the price of the product to the average price of all farm products for the preceding ten years. Parity prices are customarily calculated by the Secretary for about 155 farm products; and one reason for the last provision is that the Secretary has given new base periods to about two-thirds of these products since 1938, under the discretionary powers provided for him.

The effect of the parity price provisions would be to substantially change the relative prices of some products. For this and other reasons, therefore, "transitional parity prices" are also provided. These simply mean that to avoid too rapid changes in

prices, when the new parity price is lower than the old, the drop in any one year for any product may not be more than five per cent. While the average of all new parity prices would not differ from the old by more than about one per cent, parity prices of grain would drop by 10 to 20 per cent, while those for livestock would be increased.

The Secretary may also support prices of other crops, either storable or perishable, in addition to the five basic crops and tobacco, if he has funds available. Some funds are available each year from a provision of legislation passed in 1935, whereby 30 per cent of tariff revenues are set aside for the specific purpose of widening the market for farm products. In 1947-48 money thus made available amounted to \$135 million. Of this amount about \$75 million was assigned to the national school lunch program, inaugurated by the National School Lunch Act of June 1946.

This act was designed "to safeguard the health and well-being of the Nation's children and to encourage the domestic consumption of nutritious agricultural commodities and other food . . ." It operates on the basis of agreements with each state, the co-operating state putting up dollar for dollar until 1950, after which the state proportion increases. All lunches must be served on a non-profit basis and supplied free of charge, or at reduced prices, to children unable to pay the full cost, and must also meet minimum nutritional requirements set forth in the agreement. During one peak month, about 44,500 schools served lunches to more than 6,000,000 children. During one year, the estimated contributions in cash, from appropriations, donations and children's payments, as well as donations of food and services, amounted to \$280 million. During one recent year also, an estimated 1.1 billion lunches were served.

THE nature of House and Senate differences over the farm program in 1948 almost guaranteed a re-opening of the subject in 1949, after the excitement of a presidential election year had died down. The initiative was taken in April by the Administration, and Charles F. Brannan, the Secretary of Agriculture, brought forward, with the full approval of the President, his now well-known proposal to stabilize national farm income. He proposes to do this by calculating, for each year, a minimum national farm purchasing power equal to the average of the first ten of the last twelve years, adjusted each year to prices paid—prices received relationships. Then he proposed breaking this total down into support prices for individual commodities calculated to produce the indicated national farm purchasing power, or "income support standard."

The Secretary designated corn, cotton, wheat, tobacco, whole milk, farm chickens, hogs, beef cattle, and lamb as commodities which should have first priority from available support funds. Storable products would be supported by loans, purchase agreements and direct purchases by the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC), but perishable, or non-storable commodities (fruits, dairy products, livestock) should be supported by "production payments," which are cash payments to the farmer. They

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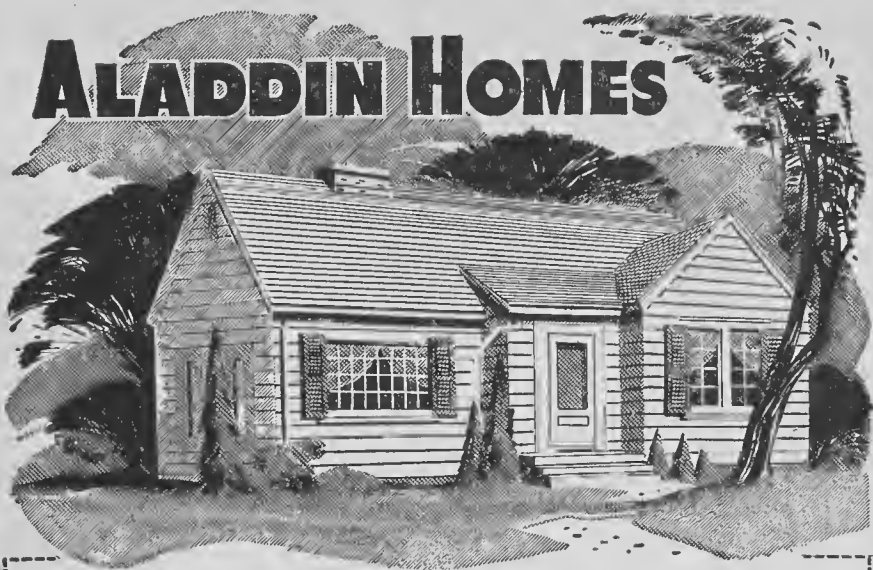
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would represent the differences between the average market price and the support price of the commodity. Support of all priority commodities at 100 per cent of the support price standard was also recommended.

A final element in the Brannan proposal was designed to develop a strong and self-reliant rural population. To this end it was proposed to limit that quantity of production from each farm which would be eligible for support. Equivalent production units were set up—such as 10 bushels of corn equalling 346 pounds of milk, or 86 pounds of cattle, or 7.77 bushels of wheat—and under the Brannan plan no farm would be eligible for support on more than 1,800 production units, or for cash marketings in excess of \$26,000.

The Secretary stirred up a political hornet's nest. He was accused of catering to labor (CIO), because in the operation of his plan, prices of farm commodities would be allowed to fall to any level necessary to sell farm products. Government payments would make up the difference for the farmer. As prices fell the consumer would benefit. Supports at 100 per cent for the farmer, and cheap food for the consumer, also looked like a bad deal to all of the national farm organizations, except The Farmers' Union. Republicans accused Mr. Brannan of playing political football with farm policy and looking toward the mid-term elections coming up in 1950.

SINCE April, therefore, Congress has been in a turmoil. Three bills have been introduced: The Pace Bill, which would have given the Brannan plan a trial with three commodities; the Gore Bill, which would have continued the present high support prices; and the Anderson Bill which is an attempt at compromise. The Pace Bill was killed and the Brannan plan thereby thrown out for this session of Congress. The Gore bill was passed by the House. The Anderson bill, initiated in the Senate by a former secretary of agriculture, was passed there as this article was concluded. It will force some kind of compromise with

the House and throw further consideration of a long range farm policy over into next year or later. Meanwhile, the farmer is not suffering, because farm prices will be kept up until somebody wins the legislative battle—perhaps Secretary Brannan.

So lie the bare bones of the legislative story of the U.S. farm policy. Fully told in all its economic, philosophical and human detail, it is an epic tale which directly affects the lives of around 27 million farm folk, a few of them rich and prosperous and many of them poor, uneducated, and backward. It is a tale, the central theme of which is the search for abundant living by a rich and great nation of 148 million people.

After many long years of buffeting by the winds of economic and political circumstances, the U.S. farmer was finally heard after World War I. Yet to come, however, was more than a quarter century of striving for a measure of that equality and parity of purchasing power repeatedly declared by Congress to be its aim, as it had long been the aim of the farmer. No more fitting conclusion could be provided for this much-abbreviated account of U.S. farm policy history than the concluding paragraph of the Senate study of long-range agricultural policy, printed in February, 1948:

"Throughout much of the recent legislation one finds a continuation of the same thinking that dominated earlier legislative action; namely, emphasis upon helping farmers to become owners of their own farms, expanded programs for agricultural research and education, improved farm credit facilities on a farmer co-operative basis, and means of facilitating the organization of farmer co-operatives. In addition, the legislative action was designed to give emphasis to utilizing burdensome supplies of farm products, to give more direct attention to preventing the continued exploitation of the soil, to give parity income to farmers, to give aid to underprivileged rural people, to improve the diet of children, and to secure a better balanced national economy."

Peace Tower

Continued from page 5

realize it. Or if it did, it didn't think it was any of its business to do anything about it.

First tip-off anybody got was when a newspaperman's wife phoned an Ottawa columnist. He made eleven phone calls, and finally from the secretary of a cabinet minister learned about the directive coming verbally from the cabinet.

CANADA is now busy seeing that "Dominion of" does not go on new maps, new stationery, new government property. But the chances are that Dominion Day, Canada's national holiday celebrated on July 1, will be Dominion Day for a long long time. People still talk of "The Queen's Birthday" although that particular queen, Victoria, has been dead 48 years. But because May 24 was Her Majesty's birthday, and because it became the first holiday of springtime in this northern climate, many still cling to the name. Dominion Day as a holiday name is here to stay.

Soon to go also will be the hat-in-

hand gesture to the United Kingdom government, when we seek changes in our laws through an amendment to the British North America Act. Most recent instance of how humiliating this can be was when a British humorist M.P., Sir A. P. Herbert, took a quixotic notion to defend minority rights in Newfoundland after it all had been settled, when Confederation between Newfoundland was going through the legal machinery of the British parliament. He had no more right to interfere in a matter between these two countries than he had with the internal affairs of Texas and Louisiana, but he did. What he did, some other British M.P. can do again.

Meanwhile, it has taken us till past our 82nd birthday to change our name. All women give up before that time. But Canada, like the man born on February 29, who can only observe a birthday every four years, is in the same situation, and as the world reckons, it is not an 82-year-old, but a young country just coming to adulthood. The fact that this new Commons session is our 21st parliament is proof enough that nationally, we are just coming of age.

Large-Scale Turkey Ranch

This Navy veteran is building up an excellent turkey ranch from small beginnings

by G. S. WAY



Some of the 1,100 turkey hens belonging to Roy Swainson, Red Deer, Alberta. [V.L.A. Photo.]

"MY pencil is my most valuable implement," said Roy Swainson, war veteran and turkey rancher near Red Deer, Alberta. "Without it I wouldn't know where I'm at in this business."

Roy's records, for example, tell him that it takes about 100 pounds of feed to bring a turkey to market weight, between 15 and 16 pounds; that each turkey requires from a pint to more than a quart of water per day, depending on its age; that he used 3,000 gallons of fuel oil in his 20 brooder stoves, and two tons of oyster shell and the same amount of calcium grit for his 1,100 breeding hens this year.

That adds up to a big investment in itself, but then there's the cost of his poults besides. This spring he bought 5,900. He figures on a fifth of them not reaching the market, due to disease, coyotes and other turkey hazards.

"Although a 20 per cent loss is the average for the United States, it's still much too high," he says.

He expects to cut it down considerably as soon as he can build enough new brooder houses. Meanwhile, the size of his business, and the strong turkey market enable him to absorb that loss and still make money.

The Swainsons are of Icelandic origin and Roy is one of a family of ten. He served five and one-half years in the Navy. He learned turkey ranching on his father's place and, after discharge, Roy rented ten acres with some old buildings and with borrowed money bought 2,000 birds. His operations still require a lot of borrowed capital.

He married in the autumn of 1947 and took over his present quarter-

section, which his father sold to the Veterans' Land Act for \$4,000, a fair price for those days but low now. His \$1,200 stock and equipment grant went for a tractor and the rest of the \$6,000 loan was spent on permanent improvements.

The first thing he did was to build himself a temporary home with his savings, and convert the old house and barn into brooders. He also built a new brooder and is now starting another, 200 feet by 50 feet, which will cost him \$5,000 for materials. The labor he supplies himself.

Southern Alberta is excellent country for raising turkeys, he says. Ideal weather is a wet spring, to get the range pasture started while the poults are in the brooders, and dry weather when they go out on the range. The reverse is costly, for dampness brings on disease. He sells his turkeys alive to packinghouse bidders who ship them east for the Christmas trade. Payment is by grade.

Although turkeys are his major enterprise, he doesn't rely on them entirely. The buildings and range require only a relatively small part of his land and the rest raises wheat. If the turkey market collapses he says he will switch over to hogs, and his brooders are designed to become hog pens in that event.

Next year he hopes to start building his permanent home to make life more comfortable for his wife and infant son.

His advice to would-be turkey ranchers: "Stay out of them if you don't know what you're doing. Profits can be high, but without proper care and management, losses can be even higher."

Killing Airborne Bacteria

A NEW device is being produced which will sterilize the air in brooder houses, and so protect chicks from bronchitis, Newcastle disease and laryngotracheitis. The instrument vaporizes triethylene glycol into the air, and it is reported that the vapor kills airborne bacteria and virus almost immediately.

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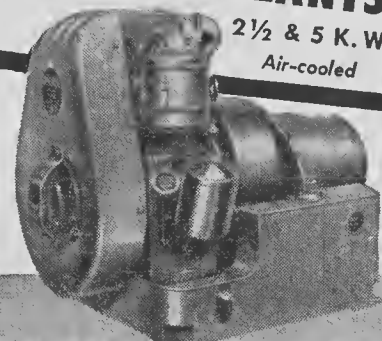
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Potato Pioneers

Continued from page 13

THE 1933 potato crop provided a good yield but the tubers were large and hollow. The seed had been expensive and the profits small but Kroeker and his son Walter were convinced that potatoes could be a profitable crop.

Their convictions got some confirmation when the government inspector came out to check the field. He was asked to look at the garden patch nearby which had been grown from local stock. "Why do you grow these things?" was his immediate reaction on seeing the plot. "There aren't any under that one— and none there," pointing to individual plants. "Just keep track of the yields of the two fields when you take them up." The truth of his statements was evident in the fall. It hurt but it was lesson enough.

Potatoes can carry many diseases in their tubers. To eliminate diseased plants from a field is very difficult, even for the practised eye. The American growers were using a "tuber unit" method by which each tuber is cut into four seed-pieces which are planted in a unit. Spaces left between units identify the plants growing from one tuber and make roguing more thorough and complete. The fields are

New Brunswick and British Columbia. The latter marked the breakdown of an old barrier which had been raised against prairie potatoes. Grading regulations had improved. Black eye and virus diseases which had cut yields and quality so much were now being eliminated by government inspection.

POTATOES are handled on the Kroeker farm with care and respect. When I called at the farm there were over 40 workers in the fields and storage sheds. Each had been told to handle the valuable tubers as though they were eggs. Bags are filled, moved and dumped with a great deal of care. New bags are used for each field of Foundation seed and are used after that for the culls which are to be sold as table stock. Trucks, diggers and baskets are thoroughly disinfected before they enter a new field.

"It may not be necessary to be so strict and careful in all cases," Walter told us, "but we want to be sure. This year most of our fields had a clear reading from the inspector but you never know when you are spreading some disease. If a spike of the planter or a cutting knife passes through an infected tuber it will infect the next 25 tubers unless it is dipped in disinfectant."

Chemicals are used a lot in field spraying as well as for disinfection.



Peter Kroeker (inset) and the storehouse for shelled corn. Drying bins in this building have false floors and hot air ducts.

rogued frequently during the growing season and where any plant shows signs of disease, it is carried off the field and destroyed with the other three members of the unit. This method of producing quality, disease-free seed entails a great deal of hand labor. Kroeker thought he could grow seed more cheaply than the Americans could.

Winkler proceeded to become the source of seed potatoes for many American co-operatives and private companies. Blue Tag Certified Seed was shipped north to be grown in tuber units. With careful handling, thorough roguing and conscientious attention to disinfecting bags and equipment, Foundation and Foundation "A" seed were sent back across the border cheaper than the Americans could grow it themselves. Labor shortages during the war years reduced the labor advantages to the point where this enterprise had to be dropped.

By this time the Kroeker farm had gained wide recognition as a supplier of high quality seed potatoes. The Canadian market expanded, with carloads selling to seed houses which removed the eyes and sold them in small packages through the mail. Additional carloads were sent to growers in

Potato fields are treated every 10 days during the growing season with a mixture of DDT and fungicide. In 1949 three applications of chlordane were made to control grasshoppers. Grain fields are given standard applications of 2,4-D solution and are treated early in the season while the weeds are most susceptible.

The Kroeker farm now contains over 1,000 acres. Each year half of it is seeded to grain and half to row crops—corn and potatoes. The row crops are alternated so each will be grown once every four years. By leaving the corn stalks standing in every second field a good coverage of snow is held on all the land and is melted slowly in the spring. Summerfallow is not used at all.

Kroeker himself is turning over the management of the farm to the boys. Peter takes charge of the corn and grain fields. Walter has done the study and research on potatoes and manages that end of the business. Last year he spent some time with the experts at Cornell University in New York State. The pioneer spirit is just as strong in the third generation as it was in the first and we can expect that more new frontiers will be broken on the Kroeker farm.

Can Animals See Colors?

A bull is not enraged by a red flag any more than by a green one, because it cannot distinguish colors. A flea recognizes red—the color of the blood it seeks

by DAVID GUNSTON

CAN animals see colors? It is an interesting question. We, who see a world full of color can scarcely imagine a world that contains no colors at all, and at first we are apt to imagine that all the other inhabitants of the earth see their surroundings the same as we do. Yet color is really an arbitrary thing, and color sense a faculty that has only been developed and is in fact, constantly changing. (Homer always called the sea wine-red, for instance, and the Ancient Greeks referred to the human face as green.)

No object really contains an actual color, either. It merely absorbs the white light of daylight, like everything does, reflecting only one of the components of that light. Thus a green object absorbs all the colors of the spectrum except green, which it reflects, thus appearing green to us. And to show what an intangible thing a sense of color actually is, just try to explain what red is to an imaginary blind person, without the use of comparison. It is quite impossible. Many millions of human beings are color blind in some degree; some not knowing red from green, others distinguishing only between red, green and violet, all other shades appearing the same muddy brown neutral shade.

From all this it will be seen how difficult it is to tell exactly whether animals and other creatures do in fact see colors. But we know a fair amount on this subject. Enough, for instance, to say quite definitely that almost all the ordinary animals cannot see colors at all. They live in a world of black and white and indeterminate greys. This may sound strange, but it is not. We should not find it hard to get used to all that. Most of our movies and most of our photographs, including those in magazines and newspapers, are still black-and-white; yet they do not seem strange because of that.

Dogs, cats, horses, sheep, cows—even bulls, none of them can see colors at all. The red tag in bull-fights is largely showmanship, as has been proved again and again by experiments in Spain. The bull is annoyed not by the color but by the fluttering cloth. If it wants to charge it will do so, red cloth or no. Only the monkeys and apes have a developed sense of color. In this connection it is interesting to note that these animals are the only ones that have really bright colors in their bodies. Take the bright blues and pinks of the mandrill, for example. Most of the other animals have dullish greys, browns, black or white, and no bright colors.

Birds are different. They can see

most colors and in contrast to most animals, are themselves brightly colored. The color of a creature plays a big part in its attraction of a mate. Birds can see yellow, red, green and orange quite clearly, but blue they cannot see so well. The Australian lyre bird can see blue clearly, however, since it selects blue flowers and fruits among those of other bright colors to decorate its arbor. Birds rarely see violet either, and it is an interesting fact that violet or blue seldom occur in the coloration of birds. Where they do so, the colors are exceptionally vivid, like those of budgerigars, macaws and parrots, which suggests that birds can only see these colors when they are especially vivid. Brilliance always attracts birds, whether it be the brightness of a lighthouse at night or the shining objects which jackdaws and magpies pick up and hoard away.

Fish can see some colors. Perch, trout, shanny and minnows have been proved to be able to distinguish between a fair range of colors. The perception of color among fish is most marked in cases of fish that themselves are either brightly colored or can change their own color to match their surroundings. Prawns and shrimps can also see colors.

Insects can certainly tell colors apart, although this faculty varies greatly with different species. Butterflies and some moths can see many colors, and so of course can bees, upon which more experiments on color sense have been made than upon any other creature. Bees and other pollinators of flowers like certain flies, wasps, etc., can see some colors, chiefly blues, but they are as often as not attracted to honey-bearing flowers by the scent and not the color. It has been found that bees live in a world of blues and yellows, and cannot tell reds at all, or reds from black. But on the other hand they can see adequately in ultra-violet light, which we cannot, and they can see the true color components of objects which look grey or whittish to our eyes.

Dragonflies are another kind of insect which can see colors, but usually it is only those insects with very highly developed eyes that can see colors properly. Flies can tell blue, which they dislike, while mosquitoes can tell white, yellow and black. They dislike the first two colors, which are the most suitable shades for clothes in mosquito-infected lands. They are attracted most to black. And again it seems certain that a number of insects, not least of them the flea, can see red, the color of the blood they so eagerly seek.



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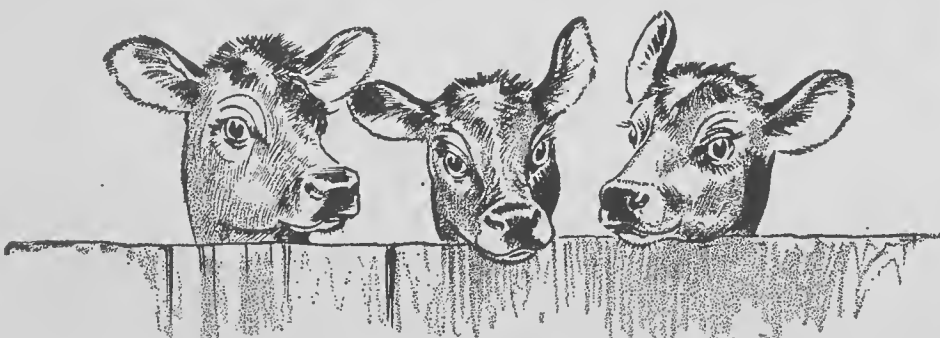
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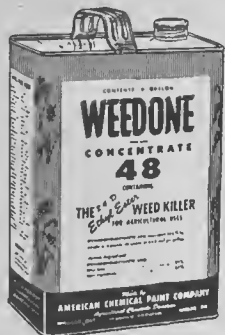


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Peculiar Shipping Conditions

A peculiar situation has existed in grain handling during the past month, so far as shipping is concerned. There have not been enough ocean ships either at Atlantic or Pacific ports to move wheat. At the same time there have been far more lake vessels offering to take cargo from the lakehead than could be supplied with grain. As a result elevators in eastern Canada are congested to an extraordinary extent. The Wheat Board has had to take the unusual step of transferring wheat to the winter port of St. John where it will have to remain in storage until winter closes the St. Lawrence route. At the same time wheat has been transferred from Prescott to the elevator at Quebec, in order to make use of every cubic foot of space that can be found.

The scarcity of ocean shipping is related to the devaluation of sterling which took place on September 19. Freight rates on British ships are payable in sterling. From the standpoint of Canada and the United States devaluation of sterling meant a sharp cut in ocean freight rates. North American ships which have to pay their crews and meet other expenses in terms of dollars found themselves unable to compete with British ships under new conditions and as a result a large number of them have been tied up idle. This has meant competition for the remaining freight space available and there have not been enough ships to meet all demands.

Even before the change in currencies the British Government quite naturally tried to insist that cargoes for the United Kingdom should be moved in British ships. Scarce British dollars could not be diverted to paying freight charges in terms of other currencies than sterling. This policy has been intensified since September 19 and wheat has simply not been loaded for trans-ocean movement unless there was a British ship available to take it.

The contrasting situation in lake shipping arises from quite different causes. During recent years there has not been enough lake shipping to meet demand. Frequently the Wheat Board had difficulty in getting grain forward to eastern positions because the boats which might have carried wheat were attracted to more profitable business, such as wood pulp or ore. Lately there has been a falling off in wood pulp shipments on the lake. Far more important, however, the steel strike in the United States has brought to a stop ore shipments from Duluth and Superior. The boats which usually engage in that trade have tried to pick up some revenue by offering to take grain. As a result, the harbor at Port Arthur and Fort William has recently seen from 40 to 50 boats at a time lying at anchor in the hope of a grain cargo. At the same time even the regular grain boats have been delayed in loading, either because wheat was scarce at the lakehead, or for lack of eastern space in which to put it.

This condition at the lakehead has not resulted in any cut in shipping rates. For one reason owners of the ore boats do not want to commit themselves for future business, or to

have their boats tied up with grain for any length of time. They hope from day to day that the steel strike may end and enable them to get back into their regular and profitable run. They would like a short run to Georgian Bay ports with a quick turn-around there.

There are important implications, extending far beyond the grain business in respect to ocean shipping. In earlier years, Britain's mastery of the seas was not only in respect to her navy. She controlled a large part of the world's merchant shipping because she could build and operate ships more cheaply and efficiently than other countries. More recently, because so many British ships had been destroyed during two wars, a large merchant navy was built up by the United States and a smaller one by Canada, while other countries also expanded their shipping. It may be that conditions are now developing under which a preponderant share of world trade will again move in British ships. In spite of the desire of the United States to maintain a large merchant fleet the wage demands of crews from that country, as well as the costs of ship building there, may make it difficult to compete with British ships.

Crow's Nest Rates On Grain

A serious danger is looming up that western farmers may be exposed to higher freight rates on grain. This arises from attacks made before the Royal Commission on Transportation on what are known as the "Crow's Nest" grain rates. Serious attempts are being made to get the Royal Commission to recommend removal of provisions of the Railway Act which regulate grain rates, and to have these transferred to the jurisdiction of the Board of Transport Commissioners, in the hope that higher rates would then be imposed. In a brief filed by the Canadian Pacific Railway, the suggestion is made that that Company ought to derive annually from 13 to 17 million dollars more from handling grain, a suggestion which, if implemented, would mean a total increase of freight charges, for all railways, of perhaps \$30,000,000 annually. That might mean from five to 10 cents per bushel more on wheat.

The maximum rates on grain were first set by the Parliament of Canada in 1897, as a result of an agreement with the Canadian Pacific Railway for a subsidy for a line to be built through the Crow's Nest Pass. Soon after that, lower rates on grain were put into effect. Then, as a result of high costs and high prices brought about by the first world war, provisions to the Railway Act in this respect were suspended for several years, during which much higher rates prevailed for a time. The Crow's Nest maximum rates were restored in 1922 and farmers will still remember the vigorous fight which western interests had to make at that time to bring this about.

Recently, the Board of Transport Commissioners has authorized general freight rate increases in Canada, and still further increases are being sought by the railways. So far, freight rates on grain to the lakehead or to Vancouver for export have not been affected as these are not within the

COMMENTARY

jurisdiction of the Board of Transport Commissioners and because the Railway Act forbids higher rates than are now in effect.

The present attack on the grain freight rates is twofold. Some shippers claim that they have been subject to higher freight rates on other commodities because the railways have been precluded from getting more revenue out of grain. The Canadian Pacific Railway has come out with its declaration that the present rates do not yield enough, by many million dollars.

The present Royal Commission has no direct jurisdiction over any freight rates. The representations made to it are in the hope of persuading the Royal Commission to recommend that grain rates should be transferred to the jurisdiction of the Board of Transport Commissioners, on the assumption that the Board would then allow large increases.

There will, of course, be a strenuous effort on the part of western interests to uphold the principle that the rates on grain should continue to be regulated by Act of Parliament. They will maintain that the national interest in the wheat growing industry is too great to abandon a principle that has been a part of national policy for many years.

It can be taken for granted that no change in the Railway Act, such as is being suggested, can be made by Parliament without provoking there an effort corresponding to that of 1922 to uphold the interests of western farmers.

The amount of money involved in the question makes this matter one of very serious concern to every western farmer and, no doubt, the discussions before the Royal Commission will be closely followed in the west.

India Looks For Wheat

Representatives of the Government of India have recently been in Canada and the United States trying to arrange for some large shipments of wheat. The matter of payment represents the difficulty, for India, as is the case with other sterling block countries, finds itself short of dollars. There are some enormous credits in Britain to the Government of India, but these are in sterling and for the present are largely frozen, so they cannot be used against purchases on this continent.

Efforts are being made to work out some large barter deal with the United States through the medium of the Commodity Credit Corporation. So far as Canada is concerned, there have been some suggestions of a loan to India to make wheat purchases possible.

Not so many years ago, India used to supply 30 to 50 million bushels of wheat annually to Great Britain. Growing population there, however, meant that all food was needed for home consumption and India began to be an occasional importer of wheat. Partition between Pakistan and India meant that the wheat growing area was left mainly in Pakistan. Political difficulties have interfered to some extent with trade between the two countries, a fact which, to some extent at least, is responsible for India's desire to buy from North America.

Crop Yields In The United States

Crop production in the United States in 1949 did not fully reach the levels earlier hoped for. The out-turn of most grains fell well below the record crops of 1948 but was still much in excess of the ten-year average. The wheat crop is now put at 1,126,000,000 bushels, 13 per cent less than the 1948 crop, but 14 per cent more than the ten-year average. The total includes about 900,000,000 bushels of winter wheat and about 230,000,000 bushels of spring wheat. The latter fell 22 per cent below the production of 1948 and 13 per cent below the ten-year average. The spring wheat states suffered from adverse weather conditions such as prevailed over large parts of Saskatchewan and Alberta.

The corn crop is now estimated at 3,400,000,000 bushels, slightly less than in 1948, but 25 per cent better than the long term average. Weather was very favorable to corn, but, in addition, the yields per acre in the United States have been much improved during recent years, largely as a result of using hybrid seed. Average yield for the whole country in 1949 was over 40 bushels per acre.

Although the yield in 1949 was slightly below that of 1948, the available supply of food stuffs in the United States is greater than ever before, largely due to a large carryover of corn. Flaxseed production fell off this year for the same reason that prevailed in Canada, reduced acreage and low yields. Perhaps the item of news about crops in the United States of the greatest immediate importance to farmers in Western Canada is the fact that barley production at 234,000,000 bushels represents the smallest barley crop in 12 years. For that reason there has been a strong demand from south of the border for Canadian malting barley. Several years ago, American maltsters began to take interest in barley from Western Canada and it looked as if a substantial annual business, running from 20 to 40 million bushels, could be hoped for. That suffered a check when Canadian policy for a time limited or embargoed barley shipments, in order to conserve feed for hogs in this country. The American maltsters, who were reluctant to put their faith in supplies that might be thus cut off at any time, developed a campaign to encourage barley production. For a time this appeared to be making great headway in the central western states, and it began to look as if Canada might have permanently lost an important export outlet. That condition is being reversed this year and one indication of the strong demand from the United States is to be seen in the level of barley prices now prevailing in Canada.

From the standpoint of total supplies, there is now no need for Canadian oats south of the border, although in some past years substantial shipments have been made. However, some small export shipments have taken place this year, a tribute to the high quality of the best Western Canadian oats for which some limited market can nearly always be found in the United States.

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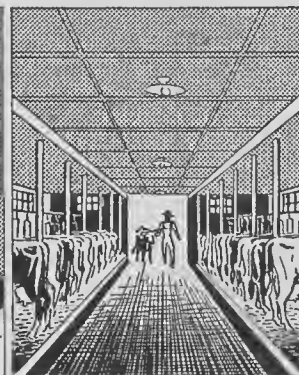
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The Dream

Continued from page 8

did live on a farm." He sat down on the old studio lounge that was covered with a faded blue and red plaid steamer rug. His eyes stared through the thick lenses of his glasses, out to the sky where lavender and pink and purple shadows lengthened in the west.

"I never lived on a farm," he repeated slowly. "But all my life I've wanted to. And now I'm going to. Now I'm going to buy a farm. I'm going to quit keeping books in a seed-house, and I'm going to be a farmer."

THERE was a silence for a minute in the shabby, small room with its two-burner gas stove and sink in the corner, its decrepit studio lounge and disreputable stuffed chair. The little boy watched Mr. Beelby curiously, then he said:

"Don't you like keeping books?"

"I hate keeping books," said Mr. Beelby. "I've hated it for years."

"Why did you then?" asked the little boy. "Keep books I mean?"

At this point there was another knock at the door.

"Come in," again called Mr. Beelby, and a replica of the first little boy slid around the door, except that his sweater had brown and white stripes, and his eyes were blue.

"Here's John," said the first freckled-faced one, rising from the kitchen chair by the table. "I'm Jimmy. Guess we'd better go. Thank you for getting me the 'plane."

John stared. "You have to come, Jimmy. Mom says right away. Don't bother the man."

"He doesn't bother," said Jimmy. "He's okay. He's swell. I'm coming."

"You'd better. Mr. Kindersley's come."

"Him!" exploded Jimmy. "He would! Guess I'll wait 'till he goes."

"He's talking to Mom about the farm. He's still trying to get it. You know, like he always does. Pete's arguing. Come on, Jimmy."

John turned to the door, Jimmy following him reluctantly. Alfalfa jumped down from the chair and Jimmy stopped to pat him gently. Then he turned suddenly and said, "Say! Why don't you buy our farm. You want a farm, don't you? It might not be so bad if you bought it. We could come and see you some times. Alfalfa would like it. There's lots of cats in the barn. Dinty and Blackie and Snow. And there's horses . . . Pluto and Ned. . . ."

He swallowed and gulped, and Mr. Beelby saw his hazel eyes mist, and the small brown hand rub them angrily.

He smiled at Jimmy. "Perhaps I will, I'll see," he said. "Perhaps I will come up and see your mother later this evening."

"Come now," said Jimmy. He pulled at Mr. Beelby's thin tweed jacket. "Come now," he urged, "before Mr. Kindersley gets the farm. I hate Mr. Kindersley. He kicked Nero, that's our old dog. He kicked him 'cos Nero growled at him. And he hits horses. I've seen him. Couldn't you come up and see my mother right away?"

Mr. Beelby opened the door onto the landing. There was the sound of footsteps descending the stairs, and a loud, coarse voice. The two little boys ducked back into Mr. Beelby's room.

"It's him," whispered Jimmy. "It's Mr. Kindersley. Gosh! Here's Mom coming too. Bet she's after us."

Before Mr. Beelby could duck back too, they were turning the corner onto his landing. They were a short, heavy-set man with fat, florid, blue-veined cheeks, and small, hard eyes, and a little slim woman with short, springy curly brown hair, large, expressive blue eyes, and a thin face that was brown and sunburned.

Jimmy went bravely out onto the landing. "We're here, Mom," he said. "Me and John. We got the 'plane." He held out the 'plane, triumphantly.

The fat man glared angrily at the little boy.

He pushed past Mr. Beelby, and at the top of the stairs leading down to the floor below, he turned and said, "I'll be around in the morning, Marion. This is the last time. If you can't decide by then, the deal's off." He clumped off downstairs.

"Mother," Jimmy lifted anxious hazel eyes to his mother. "Mom. He . . ." he indicated Mr. Beelby by a glance and a nod. . . . "He wants to buy a farm. Mother . . . he's awful nice. He likes cats. There's a cat called Alfalfa. Mom, we could go and see him sometimes. . . ."

Mr. Beelby was beginning to feel very red and uncomfortable.

looking after Alfalfa, that's Mr. Beelby's cat . . . Mom?"

This time, Mr. Beelby turned almost purple with embarrassment.

"Here Jimmy! . . . That's too bad," he stammered. "Mrs. Winston, no Ma'am, I'll come after supper."

"We would be pleased if you will have supper with us, Mr. Beelby," said Marion Winston, in what Mr. Beelby thought was just the right mixture of hospitality and reticence, and the glance she gave him was cool and yet kind.

"No, indeed, thank you very much. You didn't see my supper cooking in the oven, Jimmy. I mustn't waste it, you know. I'll be up after a while. Thank you, Mrs. Winston."

AS they climbed the stairs to the room above, Mr. Beelby, belatedly filling the kettle at the bathroom tap, chuckled as he heard Jimmy say, "Mom, he didn't have his gas-oven on. I know he didn't. It wasn't warm enough in there for the oven to be on. I didn't see his supper in the oven, 'cos it wasn't in the oven, that's why."

And he heard Jimmy's mother say, "Oh dear. Perhaps I should have insisted on him coming. Poor man. He'll probably be hungry, waiting all



"My name is Tom Beelby, Ma'am," he said, meeting the woman's direct, blue gaze with a level, but nervous regard. "Mrs. Flandry is my sister. She'll vouch for me being respectable and all that. Your little lad is right. I do want a farm. I want a farm badly. I've wanted one for thirty years."

"Did the boys tell you I wanted to sell the farm?" she asked. "I needn't ask. They are very talkative boys. Especially Jimmy."

"I only told him when he said we made a noise," complained Jimmy.

Mr. Beelby flushed and felt worse than ever.

"I'm sorry," said Jimmy's mother, rather coldly. "I'm afraid the boys do make a noise."

"I don't mind a bit," said Mr. Beelby. "We got talking. He was explaining why they made a noise that's all. Maybe we could discuss this farm of yours. . . ."

"Our name is Winston," said the boy's mother. "Suppose you come up this evening, and we'll talk it over. And Jimmy and John, supper's ready, suppose you come now."

"Couldn't Mr. Beelby come for supper too, Mom. He hadn't time to get any ready, he was talking to us, and

this time for supper. He seemed very kind, Jimmy."

"He's swell," said Jimmy, then the door upstairs closed, and Mr. Beelby heard no more.

He was hungry, but he was accustomed to being hungry.

He had been hungry, not entirely but not really filled up, ever since he had started to save his money, after Maud, his wife died, six years before.

MAUD'S illness that had lasted for two years, had eaten up all of Tom Beelby's savings. Maud had been a selfish, grasping wife, and her death had left Tom with no other emotion than a feeling of profound relief, but with an enormous pile of debts for doctors and hospitals and private nurses.

Then, when everything was cleared away, he had started from scratch to save for the kind of life that he had hoped would be theirs, when he and Maud were married. He could remember vividly, the sick feeling that had swept over him, when Maud had told him, thirty years ago, that she would never consent to living on a farm.

So he had gone as bookkeeper to Wakefield and Wright, seedsmen and

horticulturists, and he had made entries during the long, weary years for wheat and oats, clover seed and seed potatoes, raspberry canes and strawberry plants, for peas and beans and cabbages, for flowering mock-orange and perfumed nicotiana.

And always as he marked the entries in the books, he could see the waving fields of wheat bowing before the soft, west wind, and smell the sweet clover, where the bees were buzzing, and taste the strawberries that were growing on the farm which he would never own as long as Maud were alive and sharing his life.

He had studied books on farming, on crop rotation, and the growing of clovers to enrich the worn-out soil, and he had read voraciously, finding a vicarious happiness in what others did on farms.

Sometimes he thought he was weak, not to tell Maud that if she wouldn't go farming with him, he would go alone. But Tom Beelby wasn't the man to go back on his marriage vows, and Maud had been a fretful invalid, whom a man like Tom Beelby would always feel he had to cherish.

Now it was over, the waiting and the weariness. He had accumulated \$3,000.00. By saving and scrimping, by living in the most meagre way possible, by renting a cheap, sordid room from Jane Flandry, his sister, he had managed to scrape this sum together. And three thousand should at least take care of the down payment on a decent quarter-section of land in Alberta.

Tom Beelby lifted the hissing tea kettle from the stove. He hummed blithely, then he remembered Kathie. He would just slip into Kathie's and Bill's room and see what was the matter.

But the room next door was empty, when after knocking softly, Mr. Beelby opened the door and went in. There were no signs of supper. There were some brightly colored, illustrated pamphlets on the scarred, brown table. Bright advertisements they seemed to be, of fishing scenes, and ships and the Pacific Ocean.

"That Bill," sighed Mr. Beelby, shaking his grey head. "Always hankering after the sea, and working in a wholesale house, downtown, shoving crates around. Poor lad! Poor Kathie!"

He jumped, as Bill Anderson came into the room, his dark eyes angry, his thin face gloomy.

"Hi, Tom," said Bill automatically.

He scooped the colored pamphlets into a big envelope and shot them into the steamer trunk in the corner. Then he banged down the lid angrily.

"I . . . was looking for Kathie," said Mr. Beelby.

"She went out," said Bill. "We . . . had a few words. I don't know where she's gone. Dammit, Tom," he flung himself moodily onto the lounge, "why can't we have the kind of life we want. What's the matter with us, anyway? Why do we have to work at jobs we hate, live in dumps like this . . . Why? Tell me, Tom."

"I don't know," said Mr. Beelby, a thoughtful frown appearing among the many lines on his thin face. "I don't know, Bill. You shouldn't," he went on. "I had to. I guess I started off wrong, but you're young, Bill. You should be able to do what you want."

"It's hell," said Bill. He jumped up and began to walk up and down the room, running his hands through his thick, dark hair. "Down there in that

dusty old warehouse, packing stuff for Hawaii, the Caribbean, the West Indies. . . ." He paused in his crazy pacing and faced Mr. Beelby, his eyes glittering.

"Did you ever," he said wildly, "Did you ever want anything so bad, that you felt you'd go mad if you didn't get it, and yet you knew damned well you could never have it . . . and stay decent, I mean?"

Mr. Beelby smiled sadly. "Yes, boy. I've wanted something as bad as that."

"If it wasn't for Kathie," said Bill softly.

"If it wasn't for Kathie, you could run off to the South Seas?" Mr. Beelby's eyes were steady behind the thick lenses.

There was a step on the stairs, and Kathie came in. She had on a black skirt and a white blouse and a black tie, and she was slim and pretty and brown-haired.

She flew to Bill, and his arms were around her, and his gloomy lean face flashed into sudden light. Their lips met in a long, long kiss, and Kathie murmured, "Bill! I'm sorry, Bill!"

"It was my fault. I'm a heel, honey," Bill said huskily. Mr. Beelby went out quietly. He knew they had forgotten his existence.

"Poor kids," he muttered. "Poor kids."

HE didn't feel like any supper. He washed and brushed his thinning grey hair, and he climbed the stairs to the room above. He had waited six years for his dream to approach reality, and he should have been happy, but Bill's circumstances, so analogous to his own for the past thirty years had saddened him.

Was there no way, he wondered, for a couple of kids like Bill and Kathie, to reach the happiness of working at a job they could enjoy, in the environment they craved? Tom Beelby knew the heart-sickness that Bill was suffering, none better! But Maud had been a selfish woman, and Kathie would follow Bill to the ends of the earth and never complain. Kathie loved Bill, that was the trouble. And Bill would never accept her sacrifice. Bill would suffer, as Tom Beelby had suffered, gradually losing the dreams and aspirations until he became old and grey and tired, too.

Tom Beelby sighed as he knocked at Mrs. Winston's door. He forgot his melancholy, though, when he found himself the centre of the activities of Jimmy and John, and met the shy, tall lad of fourteen, who was introduced as Pete.

"He's my right hand," said Mrs. Winston proudly. "I couldn't have carried on without him. But it's too much for him to run the farm and go to school, too."

"What are you asking for the farm, Ma'am?" said Mr. Beelby, at the same time nodding admiration and approval of the small model 'planes Jimmy and John brought up for inspection.

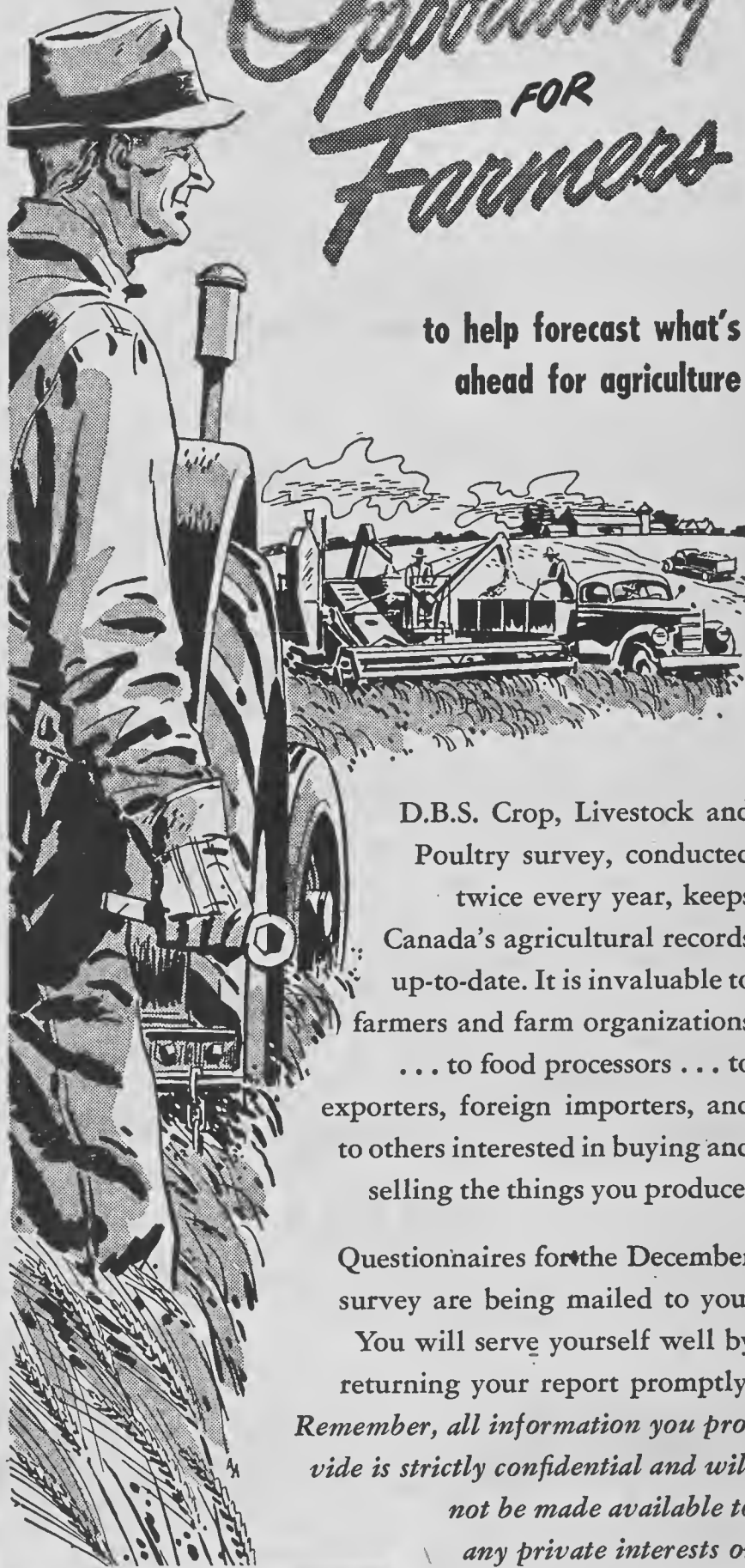
"I would like six thousand for it as a going concern," said Mrs. Winston. "I don't want to have a sale. I'd like the stock and equipment to go with the place. We . . . hate to think of the animals going. There are some old horses that we have had for years. . . . We'd like them to stay."

"Mr. Kindersley's going to get rid of Pluto and Ned," said Jimmy. His hazel eyes flashed. "I hate Mr. Kindersley."

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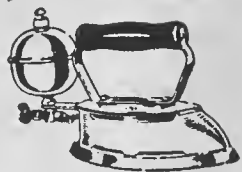
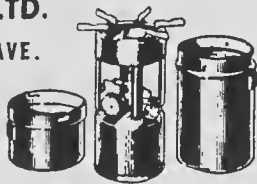
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"Hush Jimmy," said his mother. "Mr. Kindersley is our neighbor," she explained to Mr. Beelby. "He has offered me \$5,000 cash but I don't think that's sufficient . . . and . . . well we . . ." She broke off abruptly. Pete's thin brown face was miserable, and her blue eyes were sad as she looked at him.

"Mother . . . Don't let's sell at all," said Pete huskily. "I could study. I could work at my lessons, nights. Mother . . . let's go back." He got up, his face working, and dashing into the other room of the small suite, shut the door behind him.

MRS. WINSTON'S face was white, and her hands gripped the leather covered arm of the couch where she was sitting.

"Pete feels badly about selling," she said simply.

"I guess he does, Ma'am," said Mr. Beelby softly. Then he went on, "I have \$3,000. That's all the cash I have. If you would take it as a down payment, I'll guarantee to give you the rest of the \$6,000 on crop payments or shares, whatever you say."

"There are sixty acres in clover, sixty in wheat, twenty in flax and twenty in pasture, the rest is woodland," said Mrs. Winston. "There is a good house and barn, and a lovely garden." Her lips quavered and her eyes were dewy, but she squared her thin shoulders and said, "The farm is seventy miles from the city, the nearest town is Lyndon, ten miles east."

"It sounds grand," said Mr. Beelby visualizing the sixty acres of clover under the summer sunshine.

"We could go out to see it," said Mrs. Winston. "There's a train that leaves at half-past seven in the morning. We could spend the day there."

"Me and Jimmy'll go, too," said John.

"There's Molly and Sue and Baby, they're calves. And you wouldn't get rid of Pluto and Ned, would you," said Jimmy. "And Alfalfa could go and visit with Blackie and Snow, in the barn. . . . Cats you know." He hitched back and forth from one blue-overalled leg to another.

"There was a plaintive 'Miau,' from the hall. Jimmy opened the door and Alfalfa walked in and springing onto Mrs. Winston's knee purred contentedly.

"What a lovely cat," said Mrs. Winston, as there came a loud, peremptory knocking at the door.

John ran to the door and stepped back hastily, as Mr. Kindersley, his fat face redder than ever, pushed in.

"Marion," he snapped, "I have a cheque for six thousand with me. I won't wait until morning. Are you going to sell or aren't you?"

His voice was harsh and loud, and Alfalfa, who was not used to harsh voices, gave him a startled glance and jumped down and went under the table.

Mr. Beelby stood up and the little 'plane he was holding, dropped to the floor, and the door into the other room opened, and Pete looked out anxiously.

"Mr. Beelby, this is Mr. Kindersley," said Mrs. Winston.

"How do?" said Mr. Kindersley, ungraciously. "Well, Marion? You won't get a better offer. Stock's scrawny. Fields are run down. Fences poor. Barn needs fixing. Not your fault. Can't expect a kid's going to run things right. Needs a man's hand, that's what. If you won't marry me,

might as well sell to me." He laughed coarsely. Mrs. Winston's thin cheeks flushed, and Mr. Beelby flushed too, and his thin hands became thin fists.

Pete stepped into the room, his eyes flashing, his thin face proud. "We aren't going to sell the farm to you, Mr. Kindersley."

"What d'you mean, you young pup?" Mr. Kindersley's face was like an inflated balloon.

"I mean," said Pete thickly, "we wouldn't sell to you, because. . . ."

"Because," said Mrs. Winston quickly, "The farm is sold to Mr. Beelby."

Mr. Kindersley glared at Tom Beelby. "You're going to farm the place?" he sneered. "Are you a farmer. 'Tain't worth buying."

MR. BEELBY'S brows lifted. A dull red spread over the fat man's face and he said, "I only offered them that much because the place joins mine." His eyes were stony slits as he went on, "And if you heard there was oil up there, you're mistaken. They got a couple o' dry holes."

"I'm not interested in oil," said Mr. Beelby.

"Oh, you ain't eh? Well, I ain't got time to talk. I want that farm, Marion, an' till it's sold, I'm in the market for it."

He strode to the door. The little 'plane was lying in his path, and he tripped over it and stumbled. He swore, wrathfully, a vicious oath, that Tom Beelby had been taught should not be used in the presence of a woman.

Mr. Beelby stiffened. He stepped forward, but Kindersley was in a hurry. As he rushed to the door, Alfalfa jumped nervously out of his way, but was not quick enough, and Kindersley kicked out savagely.

Alfalfa squawked, Jimmy yelled, and Mr. Beelby blindly and instinctively lunged for the fat figure.

The next moment, Mr. Beelby experienced the unusual and very pleasant sensation of being held by a woman's arms, hanging on to his.

"Please, Mr. Beelby, let him go! Don't start fighting." Mrs. Winston was pleading as Mr. Beelby closed his eyes and enjoyed every minute. It was many years since a woman's arms had been anywhere near him, and there was no need to struggle because Mr. Kindersley had gone, banging the door after him."

"You might have been killed," said Mrs. Winston. "You might have been killed, if you'd fought with him."

"He wouldn't," said Jimmy. "Cos I would have gone for the policeman."

"Now, bed for you boys," said Mrs. Winston. "Because tomorrow we are going to the farm with Mr. Beelby."

The little boys squealed with delight, but Pete's dark eyes were miserable as he followed Mr. Beelby out.

"It isn't that I mind selling to you," he said. "I'd rather you had it than anyone. But it's awful! I don't want to leave the farm. None of us want to leave. We hate the city. I tell you honestly, I'm going to keep on trying to get Mom to keep the farm."

"Do you think that's fair, son?" said Mr. Beelby. "That's hard on your mother. She's only doing what's best for you."

"What she thinks is best for us," said Pete with a twisted smile. Mr. Beelby, followed closely by Alfalfa went down the stairs to his room

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thinking of what the boy had said. I guess we all do what we think is best, he thought. I did, for thirty years, and now I don't know."

His spirits rose, however, as he thought of the trip to the farm.

"I guess I'd better shave tonight," he thought happily. "There won't be time in the morning. And I'd better stop in and ask Kathie to look after Alfalfa. It might be late when we get back."

He knocked on Kathie's door, and went in when she answered. Kathie was sitting at the table, her arms spread out on the colored pictures in the pamphlets. She had been crying again. Her eyes were red, and her brown hair was hanging carelessly around her face.

"Where's Bill?" said Mr. Beelby. "And what's got into you, Kathie? Bill's a fine boy. You mustn't get mad at him. He's not very happy. You must have patience. He'll be all right after a while. . . . After . . ."

KATHIE jumped to her feet. Her eyes were not brown but the color of storm clouds at sunset, and she spoke quickly, and breathed as if she were running.

"After? After what? After life gets him down and kicks him? After he's brokenhearted from working at the job he hates, to get a roof over our heads, and something to eat. Oh, yes, we're going to have a baby, and that's wonderful. Another one to drag up in this hideous room, to scrimp and save for, so that some day we can give him something better than we've had. Another one to be deprived, so that we can save and

scrape and scratch, and then, perhaps, when we're too old to appreciate it, we can do what we would like to do."

She sat down and stared at the photographs of ultramarine sea and cobalt sky. Of fluffy white clouds and palm trees bending in the wind, and white sands, and white surf, and little boats on the unbelievable water.

Then she said slowly. "Bill's chance has come, Uncle Tom, and he can't take it. Ted Foley wants him to go in with him, in his business in Jamaica. It's boats. I don't know exactly what, but it's the sea. . . . The sea all day long, and sunshine and sand and fresh air. . . . It's what Bill's longed for and hungered for, and been crazy for. And he can't take it. He can't take it, because he would have to put in two thousand, and we haven't got the money."

MR. BEELBY stared at her, and there was a dull, sick pain in his stomach, as she went on. "There's a little house goes with the job. A house, mind you. A house with a garden where a baby could play. And there's a future in it, too, down there. Ted is doing fine. . . . But it's no use." She laughed a cracked laugh that ended as a sob.

"Two thousand dollars," she said bitterly. "He might as well ask for ten years of Bill's life. Though he would let them go cheerfully, if he could sell them for two thousand."

She sat down on the battered kitchen chair, put her brown head down on her arms, then she sat up, wiped her eyes with the back of her hand, like a little girl, and said,

"Sorry, Uncle Tom." She smiled bleakly at him. "I shouldn't have sounded off like that, but I couldn't help it."

Tom Beelby looked at her. He didn't see a sad, dishevelled woman. He saw the girl whose merry laugh and sweet ways had helped him get through the six years of hardship and misery, whose sympathy and tenderness had helped, she would never know how much. He knew the loyalty to Bill, the nagging she had taken from her mother, and the way she had waited for Bill to come back from the war.

And he thought of Bill, struggling year after year, the dream ever receding, receding, until it was so far away, it wasn't even a mirage.

Tom Beelby knew, no one better, what it was like to renounce a dream. And after thirty years, he thought bitterly, it should be easy to continue to renounce, but it was not.

He swallowed and his throat was dry. He looked out of the window. Outside was the neon-lighted city, where streetcars clanged, and auto horns blared, and buses roared and rattled, and where there was a constant indeterminate din.

In the country, in the clover fields it would be fragrant and very quiet. Birds would be calling, and the breezes would whisper, that would be all. The night would be silent and kind. Tom Beelby took a deep breath. "Kathie," he said, "Bill can take the job with Ted Foley. I can let you have the two thousand."

Under the single light bulb, her face was white, and her eyes were

wide and dark as she stared at him. "Uncle Tom," she whispered, and then her face was transfigured. Her eyes shone and her cheeks were washed with rose. Her loving arms were around him as she said, "Oh Uncle Tom! Uncle Tom! We can't. We can't take it."

"You can," he said stoutly. He patted her thin shoulders. He had to get away. He must get out and back to his room. "Tell Bill to come and see me in the morning," he said. "I'll be in all day."

HE would be in all day. He wasn't going anywhere. Sometime he would have to go downtown and look for another job as a bookkeeper. His age was against him, but surely thirty years' experience should count. He couldn't go back to Wakefield and Wright. He had been coaching his successor during the two weeks' notice he had given that had ended this evening.

The worst part, he told himself as he tossed miserably on the bumpy old lounge all through the long night, would be telling the Winston's that he couldn't buy the farm.

"She's probably lost the sale to Kindersley, now," he thought. "Now she'll have to look for another buyer, and the kids will have to stay cooped up in those rooms for weeks."

Mr. Beelby groaned. "Why didn't I wait until tomorrow before I told her I would buy it. I might have known." He might have had the assurance that his dream would never materialize, that the golden ending of the fairy tale was not for him.

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He finally went to sleep, but it was a wan and weary-eyed Mr. Beelby who knocked twice at Mrs. Winston's door the next morning, before it was opened.

"Come in," said Jimmy, looking very subdued and wary. He shouted, "Mom! Mom! Here's Mr. Beelby."

Mrs. Winston came in from the bedroom. Her face was pale, and her eyes looked like wind-blown bluebells, thought Mr. Beelby, and then flushed at the thought. She had on a crisp blue dress, and she looked at Mr. Beelby, and said, nervously, "Sit down, Mr. Beelby, won't you." She pushed forward the old leather arm chair.

Mr. Beelby's eyes behind the thick lenses of his glasses were puzzled. "Y . . . you are not ready to go?" he stammered, for something to say.

John looked at Jimmy and Jimmy looked at his mother. "Oh dear," said Mrs. Winston. "I don't know how to tell you. It's terrible of us. . . ."

"But it won't be so bad, will it?" Jimmy interrupted, looking into Mr. Beelby's face. "You can still come and see us, and bring Alfalfa. You could come and stay with us, sometimes, couldn't you?"

"Hush, Jimmy. Mr. Beelby wants to buy a farm, he doesn't want to visit at one."

Mr. Beelby felt a great wave of disappointment and longing mixed, wash over him. "That's just it, Mrs. Winston," he said. "That's what I came for . . . I . . . I . . ." And then he thought. "Why say anything. I can have this day. I can see the place. I'll have something real to remember, the actual place, not just what I've dreamed up." And then, "But they will think I'm going to buy. They'll be hurt and disappointed. They might lose the sale to somebody else. So he looked steadily at Mrs. Winston, and at Jimmy and John in their striped sweaters and blue plants, and he opened his mouth to tell her.

But before he could say anything, Mrs. Winston called, "Pete. Pete! You'll have to tell Mr. Beelby, I can't."

Then Pete, as if he had been waiting for his cue, came from the bedroom. "We aren't going to sell the farm, Mr. Beelby. We're awful sorry, that you can't have it, but we're going back home. Mom's going to let me try again for another year. I'm going to study nights like I said, Mr. Beelby, we're sorry, sir, but that's the way it's going to be."

PETE'S brave dark eyes looked into Mr. Beelby's grey ones, for Mr. Beelby had taken off his glasses, they were too misty to see through.

Mr. Beelby sighed. "I came to tell you I couldn't buy the farm. I haven't the money after all. I only have one thousand dollars instead of three. I have to use the two thousand for something else."

He looked at the three intent young faces, and then at the brown, thin face, and the blue eyes of their mother.

"A thousand dollars isn't very much to use to put into a farm is it?" he said wistfully.

"It would pay the wages for a hired man for more than a year," said Mrs. Winston thoughtfully.

Mr. Beelby looked again at Jimmy and John and Pete, and lastly at their brave, pretty mother. Inspiration suddenly came to him. He hitched onto his courage, and looked at them steadily. He took a deep breath and smiled, a good, heart-warming smile.

"Do you think it possible," he said, "do you think that for a thousand dollars a man might find a boarding place for a year or two, say on a farm, where perhaps he could help a young lad work the farm during the day, and perhaps help that young lad study at night?"

There was silence for a minute as the full import of the words broke upon them.

Then Marion Winston's eyes were sparkling like sapphires, and Pete's white teeth flashed in his dark face, and the little boys jumped around and turned hand springs in the little dingy room.

"A thousand dollars will make you a partner in Cloverdell Farm," said Marion Winston. "Come for a year, two years, ten, as long as you wish. The boys think the world of you . . . and I shall be glad to have you. . . ."

Mr. Beelby saw now quite clearly, that her eyes were exactly the color of bluebells in the rain. There was a scent of sweet clover. . . . "What are we waiting for," he said happily, "let's hurry and get ready."

Jimmy slid across the room. "I have to get Alfalfa," he exulted as he opened the door, "I want him to meet Blackie and Dinty and Snow. He'll like it on our farm, Mr. Beelby."

THE END.

Economy House

Continued from page 11

new house on the farm and this practice, if necessary and desirable, could be easily followed in this case.

To the young married man starting out with limited funds a large house may not be feasible. Two bedrooms may be sufficient for immediate needs. Increased bedroom space may have to be provided later to accommodate a growing family, perhaps farm "help," or perhaps even to meet the needs of an aging parent. This house is readily adaptable to expansion. At the time of construction, the entire structure is built, with the upstairs being left unfinished. The first floor is complete in itself, with ample sleeping space and clothes closets to serve a small family's needs. When the time comes that more bedroom space is

needed, the two upstairs rooms may be finished. Another bathroom may be added, if desired, by adding a dormer opposite the stair landing. Temporary sleeping quarters can be arranged in the recreation room in the basement, a practice which has become quite common with the better types of modern construction.

The location of two important features of a house; the chimney and the stairway have been carefully considered in this design. The furnace is in a central position and the chimney goes through the other floors with minimum interference to useful space. Here, the stairway is well designed to take the least possible space. A grade entrance from the back door gives direct access to the basement for storage of fuel, vegetables, etc., and will also serve to break drafts in cold weather.

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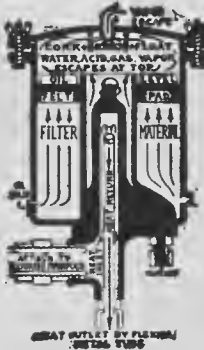
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about radical changes in the placing of doors and windows to give the greatest possible use of unbroken wall areas, against which furniture or cabinets may be placed. Note the two entrances to this house. With a pencil in hand trace possible traffic lanes from them to all rooms in the house. The back entrance is always the most used in a farm home. Here we see it opening into a rear central hall which is considered a space and a time-saving feature of a good farm house. From it access is gained to all rooms of the house, without having to cross either the kitchen-utility work area or the living room, where guests may be entertained. The housewife is able with the minimum number of steps to get to the second floor.

WINDOW areas are large to permit adequate lighting and ventilation and to give good outdoor view in all directions. Their placing is high enough to allow pieces of furniture to be pushed against the wall under the sill. Some time and observation of new houses is needed to get accustomed to the "plainness" of exteriors. This has been brought about by use of modern roofing materials and insulation, which makes a steeply pitched roof unnecessary. This means a greater saving of wall-height in both materials and labor costs. If you want to spend more money on having other exterior detail such as a vestibule at the front entrance you can have a contractor add them. In doing so you may cut out the inside vestibule with its coat-hanging space and so increase the size of the living room.

Every farm house built today should have provision for running water in the bathroom and kitchen, whether it is installed at the building time or not. Electric wiring should also be installed as a better job can be done at less expense than if added some time after the house is completed. A water system, sewage disposal unit and electric power are now definite possibilities for the majority of western Canadian farm homes and will add greatly to the comfort and convenience of farm life. This house makes provision for such features.

THE kitchen in a farm house is an all-important feature. It is more than a food preparation centre. It is in a sense also a small factory or workshop. It usually provides for such extra activities as washing, cream separating, churning and canning of large quantities of fruits and vegetables. In this plan we find a U-shaped kitchen with extra work area provided in a utility room.

A study of this area of The Country Guide Plan No. 1 shows good provision for work area apart from the kitchen. The utility room provides a sink for washing up or laundry purposes and for the storage of equipment such as cream separator and washing machine. Men and children coming in the back door may hang heavy outer clothing and store shoes and rubbers in the closet. They do not need to cross traffic lanes in the kitchen. Then too, the housewife, occupied with weekly wash, is not far distant at any time from baking or cooking operations which may go on in the kitchen. This area is in a sense a large kitchen, with a separating partition, which again provides more wall space, against which equipment may be placed. It also provides a

nearby play space for small children or a place where the older ones may help with household tasks, without getting in the way of the woman who is busy baking or preparing a meal. A small area for food preparation, handling of dishes, and storage of baking supplies and utensils means a vast saving in the time, steps and energy of the busy farm woman.

Family preferences for dining space differ greatly. A separate dining room is a feature which seems to be definitely on its way out of fashion. This again is a saving when it comes to buying furniture and it leaves more floor space for other uses, particularly in the size of the living room. In this design dining space has been provided in the kitchen which will serve on most occasions. The table too becomes another work surface for kitchen tasks. On special occasions the table may be moved into the living room or a drop-leaf, extension table may be a part of the living room furnishings and provide for extra seating when guests are present.

In the living room note: the unbroken wall areas; the placing of doorways to give ready access from other rooms. In bedrooms, bathroom and hall there is adequate closet storage for clothes. Good built-in features such as dressing table and sets of drawers are another way of achieving economy in space and in furniture purchases.

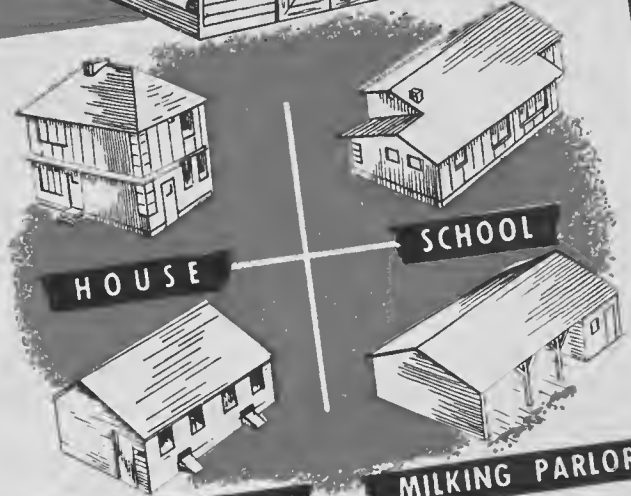
The basement is full-size providing adequate storage space for fuel and soft water supply. Bins to store vegetables and cupboards for fruit can be arranged, as the home owner wishes, in the end of the central section. The area marked "recreation room" could be turned to many good uses: a hobby room complete with equipment; a gathering place for the children's friends; an office for dad where he may have his desk and record files; a quiet study room for a student, or temporary sleeping quarters at a crowded time. Any one of these uses would serve to free other rooms in the house for the usual family activities. It gives a greater opportunity for privacy for the individual member, which means a greater development of individual personality through the pursuit of his or her personal interests while the family is housed under one roof.

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It was an enlightening and inspiring experience to attend and hear the reports of the Third Annual Meeting of Manitoba Women's Hospital Aids Association, held in Winnipeg on October 13, 1949. It afforded evidence aplenty of how women are keeping pace with modern developments of providing hospital care. It showed a nice appreciation of the relation of business ability and services rendered. It was only one sample of an activity that is now organized in eight of Canada's provinces, Quebec and Newfoundland being excepted. High value was placed on volunteer hospital workers as they can place the case of hospital needs before the public much better than professional people. It was made clear that the function of volunteers was not to run the hospital but to assist the board and the staff to do so efficiently.

There were 130 delegates registered representing 45 Hospital Aid groups throughout the province. Portage la Prairie, with its 51-year-old hospital, was the oldest institution. There were new ones just opened or about to open at Carman, Steinbach, Cartwright and Whitemouth. From other points came reports of new hospital wings being added to provide from 15 to 26 additional beds. In several instances there were hospital aid groups organized and busy while as yet their hospitals were only in the planning stage. In all cases women were busy on money-raising projects in order to provide: linens, silverware, equipment and furnishings, extra surgical supplies and many small items of comfort for patients and staff members in the nearest hospital.

It was evident, in the very feel of the meeting, that women find satisfaction and pleasure in this type of work, filling human needs in simple but important ways. As each representative rose to read her brief report, one sensed that she was justly proud to tell what the women of her community had done, voluntarily and without thought of remuneration. The provincial meeting helped delegates to get better acquainted with each other and with what was going on in communities other than their own. They were glad of the opportunity to share experiences and to gather new ideas.

Mrs. J. L. Robertson of Davidson, past president of Saskatchewan Women's Hospital Aids, organized in 1941 and now numbering 64 groups, brought greetings. She said that she was proud to belong to the vast army of volunteer hospital workers, who will always be needed whether we have state or locally owned hospitals. Smaller hospitals derive more benefit from such organized help than do the large ones. Wawota, with a population of about 250, has 15 groups of women in adjacent communities helping to support a 15-bed hospital in the town. The time has now come, Mrs. Robertson said, for a national council of women's hospital aids in Canada.

The present expansion of hospital facilities, through new or added building made possible through larger grants from the federal government, has served to spotlight the shortage of nurses in Canada. Miss Lillian Pettigrew, executive secretary of M.A.R.N., said that her organization is fully aware of criticisms made and the demand for better nursing service. Steps have been taken to work with the Dominion Government to get out more bulletins to provide information about the requirements for nurses' training and to supply a list of approved schools of nursing.

Mrs. J. M. George of Morden, president of Manitoba Aids since their organization three years ago, reported that she had travelled rather extensively throughout Manitoba, visiting aid groups and hos-

Impressions of a provincial women's meeting and notes on training for writers

by AMY J. ROE

pitals. She had attended an upper mid-west conference in the United States at Minneapolis and found there that much help was given to the recruitment of nurses. She expressed the hope that this endeavor would become a feature of the activity of Manitoba Aids. Later the meeting decided by resolution to set up a Public Relations Committee to supply information and to bring about more hospital-mindedness wherever hospitals are established and to sponsor an essay contest on "Why I Wish To Become A Nurse," among Grade XI and XII high school girl students.

It was estimated that Women's Hospital Aids in Manitoba had raised over \$50,000 in funds during the year. Miss Christine Macleod, secretary, said that it was difficult to estimate in dollars alone the help given. The reports showed that food showers, supplies of fruit, vegetables and honey, mending

small number, seized with a real desire to express themselves in the written word, persevere in spite of rejections from editors and publishers. If they have something worthwhile to say, a reasonably good education and are willing to endure the labor and mental tribulation that goes with any serious attempt at writing, more than likely they have set their feet upon a path which will lead eventually to a full-time writing job.

Is writing, then, a matter of learning a technique, acquiring a skill by which one may hope to earn a livelihood? Can teachers in a classroom give helpful instruction and guidance to a would-be writer? Or is it an art reserved for a fortunate few who are endowed with genius or for those who have the power and the opportunity to search out its mysteries? These questions addressed to established writers or to people in the publishing business will receive a wide variety of answers. They will be contradictory. Those who give them will be rather vague and indefinite about the qualities required to make a good writer, and as to how and where the beginner should start. Each probably will have a strong personal bias from his own experience and observation. But they will agree likely on one point—that the way to become a writer is to write, write about as many subjects as possible and get work published and to keep on writing.

The favorite starting point is often a job on a newspaper or magazine. These are comparatively few in number, sometimes limited in scope and opportunity. The person with ambition to write will usually, once getting on a paper, find some chance to write. Training on the job provides good discipline in handling routine tasks which go with the work of getting ideas into publication form. In the past, generally speaking, management of publications have preferred to train and "make" their own staff writers. They have been inclined to scoff at the idea of any "course" or "school" training people for their jobs. The beginner often finds that other workers on a paper are too busy, have little inclination or ability to instruct. If the beginner "has the stuff it takes" and does not get bogged down in detail, then he or she may go on to real accomplishment in writing. This training in the hard school of experience, in a highly competitive business, will stand him in good stead in whatever field of writing he may later choose to enter.

There are now three English-speaking and one French course in schools of journalism in Canada and the enrolment of students is growing. Isabel Dingman, the only woman in the British Commonwealth to hold a position as lecturer in such a school, told the Canadian Women's Press Club Triennial about them at the Vancouver meeting this past summer. The French course in journalism has been established for 25 years at the University of Montreal. A diploma in social sciences with journalistic subjects is given after three years' attendance at night school. The three other courses all started in 1945. Carleton College, Ottawa, offers a three years combined arts and journalism course, leading to a degree in Bachelor of Journalism, and had 40 graduates in 1949. Wilfred Eggleston, well-known newspaper man and author of several books, is head of the department and has two assistants. King's College, Halifax, has a three years combined arts and journalism course leading to a diploma. J. L. Rankin is head of this course and is assisted by Halifax newspaper men.

University of Western Ontario at London now has a four-year honors course, made up of two years arts and two years arts combined with journalism with lectures in History of Journalism and the Law of the Press given by experts in those fields. Western University has a staff of three, including Mrs. Dingman, a former Winnipeg newspaper woman. Arthur Ford, chancellor of the university and editor of London Free Press, raised some \$15,000 in services and money to fit the classroom with equipment such as is found in a newspaper office: typewriters, teletypes, soundcriber, etc. In 1949 Western had 27 graduates.

To Know A Poet

By GILEAN DOUGLAS

*Do not trust smiling lips
Or calm eyes;
These may be flowered walls,
These may be lies.*

*But look in the pictures
His heart drew
And if you find sorrow
Know it is true.*

of linen, repairs to furniture, welcoming and assisting nurses to find homes, and the holding of Hospital Day were projects common in many places. Money is raised in various ways: dances, curling competitions, fun fair, canteen to serve Saturday evening lunches in town. In some places the women do the mending themselves, while in others they employ and pay someone to do the work required.

Special guest speaker at the luncheon meeting was Mrs. Garnet Coulter, wife of the Mayor of Winnipeg. Her topic, "First Things First," was of an inspirational character. She pointed out that: "We live in a complex world with tremendous problems. The sinister forces in the world today are: human inertia, ignorance and prejudice. We must keep and maintain the democratic procedure. The parts of those problems are simple. We, the people, must do the jobs to be done. This means starting from where we are and going on from there, one step at a time. It means getting our sense of values balanced. All of us influence others. We should make our feelings known and thus help to form public opinion. At times in our lives we can do things which we did not think we could do, if the incentive was strong enough. This may mean that women should make a sacrifice and run for office if they have the qualifications."

Training For Writers

A GREAT many people think that they would like to write, either as a means of earning a living or an interesting and possibly profitable hobby. Perhaps their friends or some member of their family have told them that they "write such interesting letters" or able to relate some incident or story "so entertainingly that they should write it down." A few try, but are easily discouraged at the amount of concentration and effort required before they can satisfy either themselves or others. A very

The Story Of Big Nance

Etched deep in my childhood memories of pioneer life in Manitoba is the picture of an Indian woman

by ANNIE S. GREENWOOD

"ME want knife, big knife," were the first words she heard as a dusky form loomed in the darkness, and stark terror filled the room. How could the pioneer mother, alone with her little children, meet such a situation? Words failed to come, but a strange quietness and poise took possession of her. That was my mother's initiation into Indian ways on the frontier.

We were pioneers.

In the 1870's Ontario was stirred by the Canadian Government's fascinating reports of vast stretches of free-land on the frontier, in Manitoba. My parents were among the first to respond to the lure of the prairie west. Father was a master builder in Clarksburg, steadily employed. The numerous relatives and friends considered it a wild adventure for him to leave, "Taking a wife and three small children to the unknown wilderness!"

The prospect, however, of financial independence, and particularly the thought of being able eventually to have "farms for the boys when they grow up," overcame all objections. In the spring father left for the new country.

By midsummer mother had sold the most of our household belongings and with my two brothers, James six, Roland one and me, "free and a half," in between, started for the Promised Land. It was a great adventure and we thrilled to it. We were both lured and frightened. Unknown dangers faced us, especially the Indians, of whom we had heard lurid tales.

To the twentieth century mother a proposed trip around the world would seem much less dangerous.

Among our unsold possessions was a thick, black-covered volume which we always called "The Indian War Book." Its pages were filled with vivid stories of massacres. The pictures were riots of bloodshed and cruelty.

OUR only personal knowledge of the Indians was the story of a young man who had gone out from our neighborhood to set up a home in the West and had come back mentally deranged. It was said that an Indian girl had given him a poisoned drink to win his love. The story, told and re-told in the little Ontario town, had probably enlarged with every telling.

On her first long trip, with three small children and the baby very ill, mother vividly recalled the details of the yarn she had so often heard. Her mental picture of the poor man, always thinking himself chased by the Indian girl with her poisonous drink, was not a pleasant one. It helped to fill the future with dread and uncertainty. Rather vaguely, too, we knew the story of Louis Riel, the French insurgent who had led the Red River Rebellion of 1869-70. He had even temporarily captured Ft. Garry (which later became Winni-

peg). There were many rumors of Riel's continued agitation among the Indians; all of them added to our fears.

Up the beautiful Great Lakes we went. It was a tedious journey for a young mother with a sick baby, but for my elder brother, James, and for me, every waking moment was thrilling. That trip was a marvel of fascination, especially the occasional glimpse I had of the big negro cook. His was the first black face I had ever seen. "Oh mamma, see how dirty the man's face is! It's all black! Why doesn't he wash it?" I piped out shrilly the first time I saw him. I still remember the broad grin on his jolly face and the roll of his great white eyes as mother tried to explain.

Finally we landed at Duluth, then went by rail the rest of the way. The jerky little accommodation train at last reached the frontier village of Emerson on the Red River of the North—that same Red River up which the French voyageurs had paddled their canoes, lustily singing:

"Our voices keep tune, and our oars keep time."

Father had been there about three months, helping build homes for the settlers and learning about farm lands and government regulations while looking for a homestead. He met the train and took us down to the riverbank, explaining about the spring

flood which had almost washed away the little town.

Starry-eyed, we children watched the ferryboat man manage his little raft and get us safely across to the village of Dufferin. There the government had built small frame houses for settlers from the Eastern provinces. They were rent free, while claims were being found and filed upon and cabins built.

WE were surprised to learn that the government agent, under whose care we were automatically placed, was a Frenchman. Our neighbors, too, with but one exception, were French, French half-breeds and Indians. The only family with whom we had anything in common was that of Thomas Stoven, formerly an English soldier. No one else even spoke a language we could understand. Their broken English was so intermixed with French and Indian we could not understand what they said.

We were soon settled temporarily in a one-room house with enough furnishings so that it was habitable. Netting on the windows kept out the myriads of gnats and mosquitoes which swarmed up from the riverbanks where the spring flood had left vast stretches of soggy marsh land.

In a day or two father left us again to go out in search for work and for our future home.

James and I soon mingled with the French and half-breed children who played about the little houses, but our particular friends were the Stoven children. Proudly they took us into their home to show us their father's sword. It was a cherished relic of the old days in England when Thomas Stoven had served Queen Victoria. The sword hung on the wall above the kitchen stove and the children pointed it out with pride. We looked on with awe. Our father had been an officer in the Ontario militia, but of course that wasn't nearly so important as being a real Queen's soldier in England!

Shortly after our arrival we had had a visit from the government agent, Pierre Latterneau. In his fairly good English he brought us disturbing news. As protector of the village peace he told all newcomers about Big Nance, a French half-breed girl. Big Nance terrorized the little community whenever she was at home. Fortunately she seldom appeared. Pierre pictured her vividly. He wanted everyone to be prepared whenever she came. He said she was very large—a regular Amazon—tall and straight and stronger than any man in town. She always wore a black silk handkerchief on her head instead of the red bandana used by other Indian women. She drank heavily and when intoxicated was terribly dangerous. Though half Indian and half French, she tried to speak English. Big Nance despised her French mother who knew so few English words and who stayed quietly at home, tending her house and garden.

(Turn to page 64)



Pictures either of Big Nance or of Emerson village as described being unavailable, this substitute showing an Indian woman and the Red River transport of 1870 is used as being typical of the times.

A New Way to Make Better Bread - Quicker, Easier!

Perfected for Use With Robin Hood Flour

Use new Robin Hood "Rolled Dough" Method for shaping perfect loaves of WHITE BREAD



Recipe by
Rita Martin

2 packages fast rising dry yeast or
2 cakes compressed yeast
2 cups water ($\frac{1}{2}$ cup lukewarm for yeast,
 $1\frac{1}{2}$ cups to cool milk)
2 cups milk, scalded
6 tablespoons granulated sugar
4 teaspoons salt
4 tablespoons shortening or lard
11 cups sifted ROBIN HOOD FLOUR

DISSOLVE yeast in $\frac{1}{2}$ cup lukewarm water. If dry yeast is used, add 1 teaspoon of sugar for each package of yeast, sprinkle yeast on top of water and let stand 10 minutes; then stir.

ADD sugar, salt and shortening to scalded milk. Add $1\frac{1}{2}$ cups cold water and allow to stand until lukewarm.

MEASURE flour into large mixing bowl; make a well in centre of flour.

ADD yeast to milk and water mixture; pour into well in flour and stir with large spoon until liquid is absorbed. Then, using hand, mix until dough is smooth and comes away readily from the inside of bowl.

TURN dough out on lightly floured board and knead for 8 to 10 minutes.

PLACE dough in warm, greased bowl; cover with damp cloth and set in a warm place ($75 - 85^{\circ}\text{F}$); let rise until double in bulk ($1\frac{1}{2} - 2$ hours).

PUNCH dough down in bowl. Cut in 4 equal parts, round up, cover and let rest 10 minutes on lightly floured board.

SHAPE into loaves and place in well greased loaf pans. (See easy illustrated method at right).

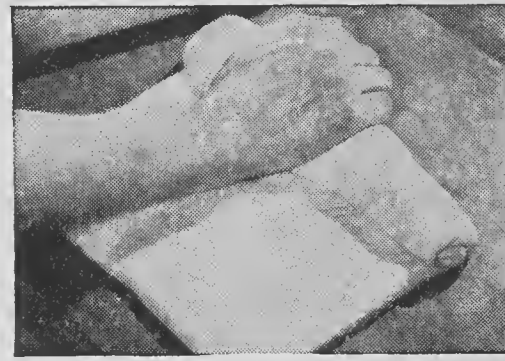
COVER lightly and allow to rise in warm place until double in bulk ($1\frac{1}{2} - 2$ hours).

BAKE in hot oven, 400°F , 10 minutes. Then reduce temperature to 375°F and continue baking for an additional 40 minutes.

YIELD: 4 loaves.



Step 1. With rolling pin, roll dough out to uniform thickness, stretching by hand to form rectangle approximately $9'' \times 12''$. Make certain to break down all gas bubbles in the outer edge of the dough.



Step 2. From upper edge, roll dough toward you, jelly roll fashion, sealing dough with heel of hand after each roll of dough. (About four turns will bring you to last seal.) Be sure to seal final seam on bottom of loaf.



Step 3. Seal ends of the loaf by using the side of the hand to get thin sealed strip.



Step 4. Fold sealed ends of loaf under, using fingers, as above. Avoid tearing dough.



Step 5. Place shaped loaf, with seam side down, in well greased bread pan.



Step 6. Proceed in usual way for raising and baking .. for a perfect loaf every time!

9 Out of 10 Women Say New Robin Hood "Rolled Dough" Method Makes The Finest Bread Ever

Now! Home bread baking easier than ever before — with never-fail results! Women who bake bread several times a week — women who had never baked bread before — all agree that this new Robin Hood "Rolled Dough" Method is easy, gives a perfect loaf every time.

With this new method you get a loaf of bread that's bigger — looks better — tastes better than any other home-baked bread.

It was originated, developed and perfected by Rita Martin, famous home economist, for use with Robin

Hood flour. You cannot get the same perfect results with any other flour. Only Robin Hood Flour and the Robin Hood "Rolled Dough" Method together can produce such large, uniform loaves.

Use the recipe for Robin Hood White Bread on this page — follow the easy step-by-step Robin Hood "Rolled Dough" Method — and we guarantee you will make the finest loaf of bread ever.

Get Robin Hood Flour from your grocer right away and try this new way to make better bread.

Robin Hood Flour

Used by 4 out of 5 Baking Contest Winners

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MUSICAL KITCHEN"
Mon.—Wed.—Fri.
(Trans-Canada Network)



FOR MY KIND OF DAY- NABISCO SHREDDED WHEAT

helps give me
hiking energy!



Ever hike 15 miles in a day? *That* takes loads of energy! So I eat husky, nourishing NABISCO Shredded Wheat every morning. It's made from pure whole wheat cereal containing vital foods we all need. *You'll* go for this delicious cereal, too. Start eating NABISCO Shredded Wheat tomorrow!



Use Sour Milk And Cream

Many delectable dishes are possible with the use of milk or cream that has gone sour

THERE is no need to be distressed if you find the milk or cream has gone sour. Sour milk and cream will add a distinctive flavor to your baking; they give a lighter, more tender product and one that is as high in nutritive value. Try using sour cream in some of your meat dishes; not only goes it give a tang to meat casseroles and stews but the acid it contains helps to tenderize the less tender cuts of meat. In chocolate cake sour milk or cream gives a wonderful texture and as well the action of the soda on the acid in the milk gives it a rich, dark color that many consider so desirable.

Sour milk can be used in place of sweet in recipes for quick breads, griddle cakes, cookies, cakes and gingerbread. For each cup of sour milk use one teaspoon baking soda and reduce the baking powder by one and one-half teaspoons. Add the soda to the flour. To substitute sweet milk for sour reduce the soda by one-half teaspoon and add one and one-half teaspoons baking powder for each cup replaced. With the interchange of sweet and sour cream the same change in proportions of soda and baking powder should be made as in using milk. Sour cream can replace sour milk, or sweet by following the directions above and at the same time allowing for the additional fat in the cream. For thin cream reduce the amount of fat by two and one-half teaspoons per cup and if the cream is very heavy the fat can be reduced by as much as six tablespoons for each cup of cream.

Sour Cream Pie

- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------|
| 1 c. raisins or currants | 2 tsp. flour |
| 3/4 c. granulated sugar | 2 eggs |
| 1 c. sour cream | 1/2 tsp. cinnamon |
| | Pinch of salt |
| | 1 tsp. baking soda |

Cook raisins in one-half cup of water until the water is almost cooked away. Mix the flour and sugar and stir it into the hot raisin mixture. Add the egg yolks to the sour cream; stir in the cream mixture, salt and cinnamon. Cook over boiling water until thick. Remove from the heat and stir in the soda. Cool; pour into a baked pie shell. Reserve the whites of the eggs to be beaten light and spread on top of the pie and slightly browned.

English Spice Cake

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 2/3 c. raisins | 1/3 tsp. nutmeg |
| 1/2 c. water | 1 egg beaten |
| 5 T. shortening | 1 1/2 c. flour sifted |
| 1 c. sugar | 1/4 tsp. salt |
| 2/3 tsp. each of cloves and cinnamon | 2 T. raisin juice |
| | 2/3 c. sour milk |
| | 2/3 tsp. soda |

Cook the raisins slowly in the water for 30 minutes and the juice is almost all boiled away. Beat the shortening adding the sugar gradually until the mixture is well blended. Add the beaten egg. Sift together the flour, salt and spices. Combine the soda and sour milk. Add the sifted dry ingredients alternately with milk to the shortening mixture, beating well after each addition. Stir two tablespoons of raisin juice and the raisins into the batter. Pour into a well-greased loaf pan; bake in a moderate oven 325°F about 45 minutes. Frost; garnish with chopped almonds.

Sour Cream Cookies

- | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------|
| 1/3 c. butter | 1/2 c. sour cream |
| 1 c. sugar | 1/4 tsp. vanilla |
| 2 eggs unbeaten | 2 c. flour |
| 1/2 tsp. mace or nutmeg | 1/2 tsp. salt |
| | 1/2 tsp. soda |

Let the fat stand until soft; add sugar, eggs, cream and vanilla; mix thoroughly. Sift flour, soda, salt and spice together; stir into the first mixture. Push from a teaspoon to a greased baking sheet. Bake in a hot oven (400°F) about 10 minutes.

Devil's Food Cake

- | | |
|----------------|----------------|
| 1/2 c. butter | 1/2 c. cocoa |
| 1 c. sugar | 2 1/3 c. flour |
| 1 c. sour milk | 1 tsp. vanilla |
| 1 tsp. soda | |

Cream the butter and add the sugar gradually. Mix and sift the dry ingredients and add alternately with the beaten sour milk to first mixture. Stir in the vanilla. Bake in layers for 25 minutes or in a loaf for 40 minutes, starting it on the lower shelf of a moderate oven. Try this with caramel icing.

Braised Veal Cutlets or Chops

Use a cut about half an inch thick and cut in individual servings. Roll in seasoned flour; pan fry until brown on both sides; pour in one cup sour cream. Cover and simmer for three-quarters to one hour. Remove the meat to a hot platter; keep warm. If the gravy is too thin stir in a paste of flour and water.

For Veal Paprika cook the meat in water, not cream. Remove the meat from the gravy; stir in half a cup of sour cream and one-half teaspoon paprika. Reheat, season, thicken if necessary.

Bortsch

- | | |
|---|-------------------------|
| 4c. boiling water in which 2 bouillon cubes have been dissolved | |
| 2 T. fat | Water in which |
| 2 large onions, sliced | beets were cooked |
| 4 beets, pared, cooked and chopped | 1/4 c. shredded cabbage |
| 2 stalks celery, diced | 1/8 tsp. pepper |
| | 1 tsp. salt |
| | 1/2 c. sour cream |

Melt the fat in a heavy kettle; add the onions and celery; cook over a low heat until the onions are yellow. Add the chopped beets, their cooking water, the boiling water, salt and pepper. Simmer 15 minutes; add the cabbage and simmer until the vegetables are cooked. The sour cream may be poured into the plates just before serving or added at the table.

Southern Biscuits

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| 2 2/3 c. flour | 1/2 tsp. soda |
| 1/2 tsp. salt | 4 to 5 T. fat |
| 2 tsp. baking powder | 1 c. thick sour milk |

Sift together the flour, salt, baking powder and soda into a mixing bowl. Mix as for baking powder biscuits. Roll the dough half an inch thick and cut into small rounds. Bake in a hot oven for 12 minutes.

Southern Griddle Cakes

- | | |
|---------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 c. cornmeal | 1 to 1 1/4 c. thick sour milk |
| 1/2 tsp. salt | |
| 1/2 tsp. soda | 1 T. melted butter |
| 1 egg | |

Mix the cornmeal, salt and soda thoroughly in a mixing bowl; add the milk, egg and melted butter; stir vigorously. The mixture is thin. Cook on a griddle. Serve with butter and syrup or with ham and chicken and gravy.

Sour Cream Dressing

- | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
| 1/2 c. sour cream | 1 T. vinegar |
| 1/2 tsp. salt | Few grains of cayenne |
| 1 tsp. sugar | |
| 1/2 T. lemon juice | |

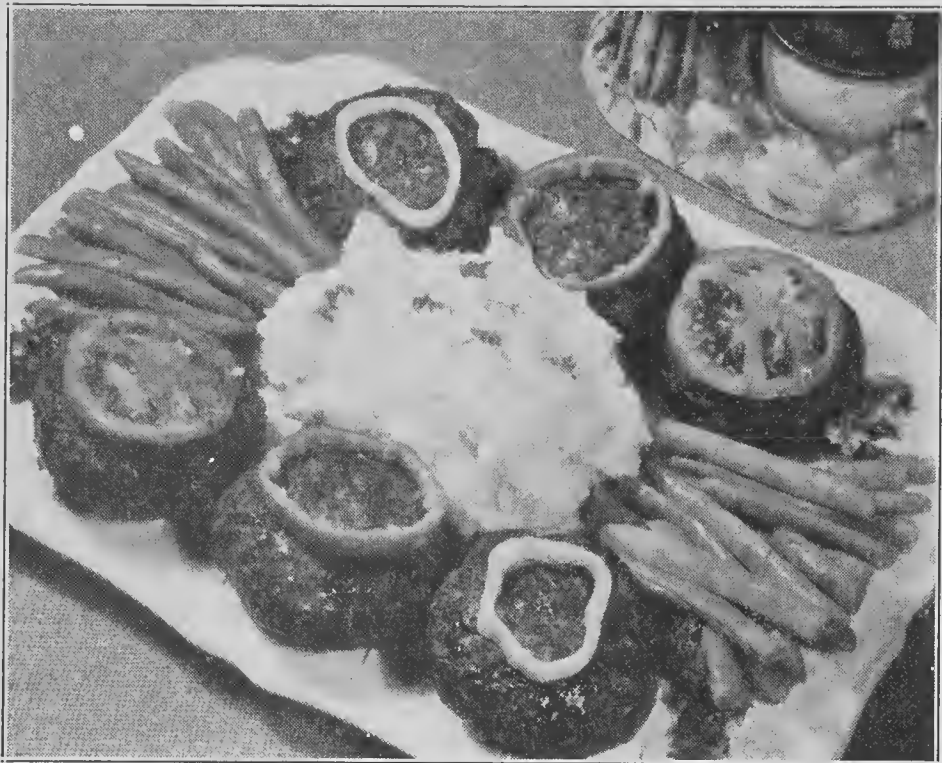
One and one-half tablespoons of vinegar and no lemon juice may be used if desired. The cream may or may not be whipped. Stir in the seasonings gradually. For serving with cole slaw one-quarter teaspoon celery seed is a desirable addition.

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Think of all three when you buy tea... fine quality, choice flavor, full satisfying strength. Nabob gives you all three. Enjoy "tea as it should be." Buy Nabob, it's your best tea value.





Lamb patties garnished with beans and tomatoes make an attractive platter.

Spotlight On Lamb

Served piping hot or very cold, with mint jelly, stuffed or plain, lamb makes a tasty meal

by LILLIAN VIGRASS

WHAT a pity that lamb is not used more often in Canadian homes! It can be served in so many ways; it is delicious and nutritious, plentiful and inexpensive, and it is cooked quickly and easily. With advances in methods of killing there should be no fear of an unpleasant, woolly flavor and we now know that cooking it with the fell (thin paper-like underskin), doesn't result in a stronger flavored meat. Perhaps lamb would be more in demand if the homemaker knew more about ways of cooking it and serving it attractively.

A special season for lamb has disappeared although it is most plentiful and less expensive in the fall. The most well-known cuts are leg of lamb and loin chops but the rest of the carcass provides just as interesting dishes. Lamb is always tender so you can roast any part of it. The breast and shoulder supply excellent rolled roasts, to be stuffed or not as you wish and the rack or rib section makes a delicious crown roast. For the latter two racks are skewered or tied together to form a crown leaving the centre free for stuffing. Put several potatoes in the cavity until it is time to stuff it, and a piece of potato on the end of each rib while roasting will keep it from charring.

Although loin chops are the best known the shoulder chops are tender and flavorful and the rack makes fine rib chops. The breast and shank are usually used for stewing but they need be only if you like lamb stew. For one a little different cut the breast into riblets, that is pieces about two inches wide by four inches; leave the vegetables fairly large; then serve them with rich, brown gravy. Braised breast or shank is good, too, in casseroles, pies or with vegetables. The meat from the end of the ribs or from any of the less attractive cuts of meat can be ground to make delicious lamb patties. Roast lamb can reappear at the table in a new and appetizing form as barbecued lamb, or in a casserole as well as cold sliced lamb.

Cooking too long or at too high a temperature will dry and harden the

meat. For roasting use a moderate oven, 300 to 325°F, and allow 30 to 35 minutes to the pound. Searing is not necessary for it doesn't really seal in the juices at all.

Lamb must be served piping hot on hot plates or absolutely cold. There is no palatable in-between temperature for this meat. Mushrooms, rice, apple slices and currant jelly as well as mint sauce are good accompaniments and stuffings of vegetables, sage or mushrooms are delicious with lamb.

Lamb Patties

2 lbs. ground lamb	¾ c. catsup or ½ c. chili sauce
1 c. fine bread crumbs	½ tsp. pepper
2 T. minced onion	1 egg, slightly beaten
1½ tsp. salt	¾ c. milk

Combine lamb and crumbs, onion, catsup, salt and pepper. Moisten with milk and slightly beaten egg. Form into patties and fry, broil or bake, uncovered on a rack in a shallow baking pan in moderate oven 350°F for 40 minutes. This recipe can be made into a delicious lamb loaf by using ¼ cup milk less and baking in the oven for one hour. Makes 12 patties.

Lamb Stew

2 lbs. lean lamb	3 onions, sliced
4-6 T. fat	4 medium potatoes, halved
2 bay leaves	4-6 carrots, quartered lengthwise
Sprig of parsley	2 sliced turnips (small)
¼ tsp. thyme	
Stalk of celery	
4 c. hot water or stock	

Cut the lamb in riblets or if preferred two-inch squares. Roll in flour, salt and pepper and brown in the fat in a stewing pan; push meat aside and brown the onions. Add water and seasonings and simmer gently 45 minutes to one hour. Add the vegetables and simmer until they are tender, 30 minutes to one hour.

Barbecued Lamb

Cut lamb in thin slices and place in a baking dish. Cover with barbecue sauce and heat thoroughly in the oven.

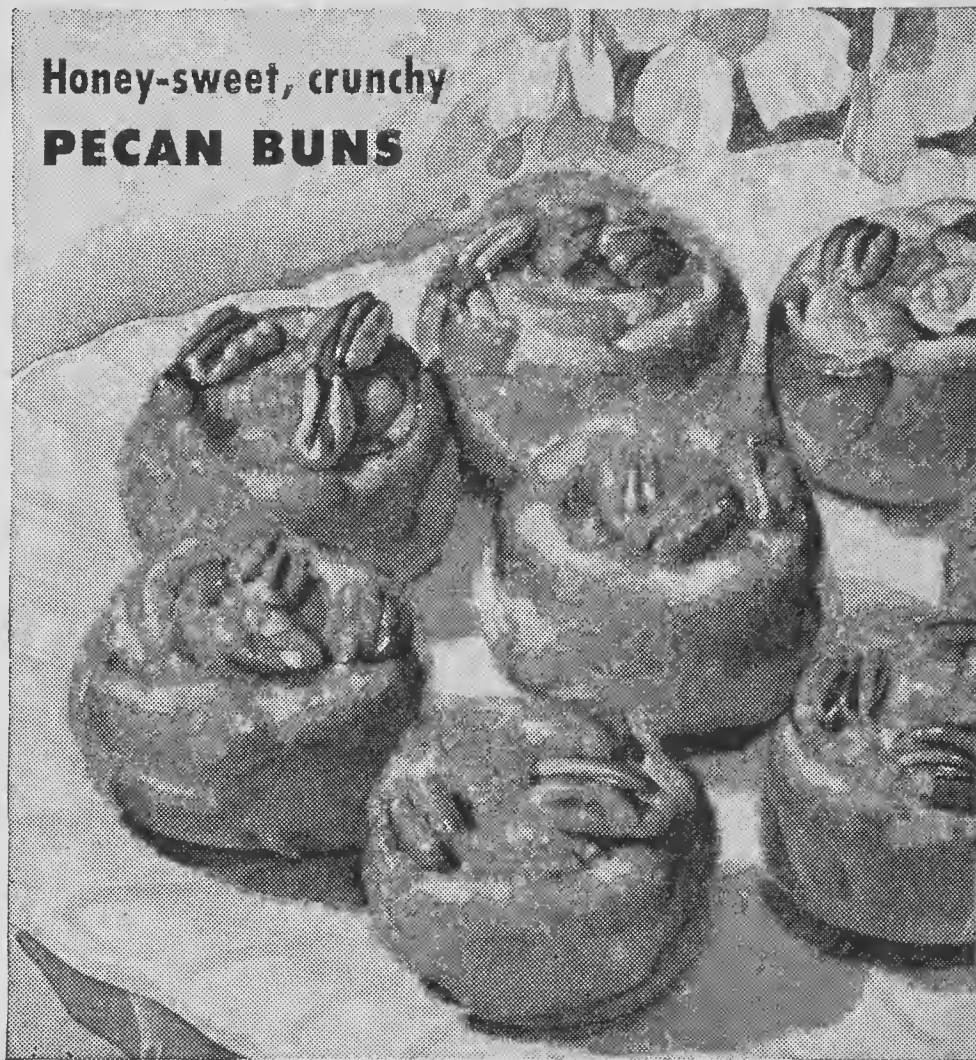
2 T. dripping	½ tsp. paprika
¼ small onion, chopped	½ tsp. dry mustard
1½ T. vinegar	Dash of cayenne
1½ T. brown sugar	½ c. chili sauce or ¾ c. tomato catsup
1 c. water	Salt and pepper to taste
½ tsp. Worcestershire sauce	

(Turn to page 62)

Special sparkle for a simple meal

Honey-sweet, crunchy

PECAN BUNS



they're a tempting treat!

● Luscious for lunch—delicious for dinner—any meal of the day, these fragrant Honey Pecan Buns are delectable eating . . . made with modern Fleischmann's Royal Fast Rising Dry Yeast.

If you bake at home—use it for speedy rising action and perfect results—amazing new convenience, too! You can keep Fleischmann's Royal Fast Rising Dry Yeast for weeks on your pantry shelf without refrigeration! Then dissolve it and use exactly like fresh yeast—for delicious flavor and fine crumb in everything you bake. Get several packages at your grocer's.

* * *

HONEY PECAN BUNS

New Time-Saving Recipe
Makes 24 Buns

Measure into bowl

½ cup lukewarm water

1 teaspoon granulated sugar and stir until sugar is dissolved.

Sprinkle with contents of

1 envelope Fleischmann's Royal Fast Rising Dry Yeast

Let stand 10 minutes, THEN stir well:

In the meantime, scald

½ cup milk

Remove from heat and stir in

¼ cup granulated sugar

½ teaspoon salt

3 tablespoons shortening

Cool to lukewarm and add to yeast mixture. Stir in

1 egg, well beaten

Stir in

1 cup once-sifted bread flour

and beat until smooth; work in

2½ cups once-sifted bread flour

Turn out on lightly-floured board and

knead dough lightly until smooth and elastic.

Place in greased bowl, brush top with melted butter or shortening.

Cover and set dough in warm place, free from draught and let rise until doubled in bulk. While dough is rising, grease 24 large muffin pans.

Combine

⅓ cup brown sugar (lightly pressed down)

⅔ cup liquid honey

3 tablespoons butter or margarine, melted

Divide this mixture evenly into prepared muffin pans and drop 3 pecan halves into each pan. Punch down dough and divide into 2 equal portions; form into smooth balls. Roll each piece into an oblong ⅛-inch thick and 12 inches long; loosen dough. Brush with melted butter or margarine.

Sprinkle with a mixture of

⅓ cup brown sugar (lightly pressed down)

⅓ cup chopped pecans

Beginning at a 12-inch edge, roll up each piece loosely, like a jelly roll. Cut into 1-inch slices. Place a cut-side up, in prepared muffin pans. Grease tops. Cover and let rise until doubled in bulk. Bake in moderately hot oven, 375°, about 20 minutes. Turn out of pans immediately and serve hot, or reheated.



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1 SOFTENS CUTICLE. Nails look neater with New Hinds helping to keep cuticle pliable. No ragged edges to "catch." Your manicures stay lovely longer!

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Hinds Honey & Almond Cream

NOW IN NEW LARGER BEAUTY BOTTLE

Tips For The Fingertips

Scheduled manicures keep nails looking their best

by LORETTA MILLER



Marilyn Erskine, lovely radio star of CBS, emphasizes nail and skin care.

EVERY girl has her own beauty bugaboo! With one girl it may be her hair or weight, with another her complexion or makeup, while the most general of all minor problems seems to be hands, particularly fingernails. Especially is this true after the summer months when one's hands are more than usually busy. Nails chip or split, cuticle grow in abundance and either tear or seem to form into hardened skin at nail corners. But no matter how unsightly the nails appear, an occasional half hour devoted to their grooming will give them a well cared for appearance.

Shaping the nails so that they add a tapering line to the fingers is generally desirable, however, the most practical length is always best. If your hands come in for a lot of work, the nails should be kept rather short. If hands are spent more leisurely, nails may be longer and filed a bit closer at the sides.

Smooth nail edges are important if snags in hose and torn nails are to be prevented. A good metal file may be used for actually shaping the nails, but an emery board should always be used for giving the final smoothness. Always use the file or emery board with a straight across or downward movement, never upward.

AFTER shaping the nails, scrub the hands thoroughly with a well-lathered brush. Then dry them well. Next, using an orangewood stick dipped into cuticle oil, work gently around the cuticle at the base of the nail, shaping it and loosening any excess. This excess should then be clipped off with cuticle scissors or nippers. Care should be taken that only excess cuticle, not the skin, is removed. Too close clipping results in too rapid growth of cuticle and skin at the sides of the nails.

Cuticle oil should be used generously. Or, if preferred, liquid cuticle remover may be used. This is available in all drugstores, and is excellent for removing excess cuticle without employing scissors or nippers. When the cuticle is really excessive, however, it is almost necessary to clip it off.

When excess cuticle have been removed, again scrub the hands well. Use a soft towel over your fingertip for pushing back and grooming the cuticle. Then dry the hands well.

After the nails have been wiped dry and the cuticle put in line, use a chamois buffer for buffing nails. This is a splendid practice as it stirs up circulation through the fingertips and aids in strengthening the nails. It also imparts smoothness and a natural lustre. If you do not have a buffer, use the cushion of your hand at the base of your thumb for polishing the nails of your other hand.

AN excellent dry polish can be made by blending one teaspoonful of powdered chalk and half teaspoon of very finely powdered pumice. Sprinkle a scant amount of this powder over buffer or cushion of hand before buffing vigorously over the nails. The nails should be buffed with each manicure whether or not nail enamel is used.

The lighter shades of polish have reached a new high in fingertip fashion. Ranging from the clear, transparent natural tones to the subtle opaque rose tints, nails are lighter and lovelier than they have been in a long time.

When clear, transparent polish is used, it may be applied over the entire nail, from cuticle to nail edge, without regard to half moon or tipping. But when the opaque tones are used, it's well to show the half moons and to remove the enamel from the extreme tip. This tip removal gives better contour to the nails and the polish is less likely to be chipped at the edge. The first application of polish must dry thoroughly before putting on the second. A coating of clear over the opaque adds extra sparkle to the nails.

Nail or cuticle cream or oil should be applied often to nails that are brittle or cuticle that split and tear. Rough edges on the nails should be removed at once with an emery board to prevent further damage to the nail. Fingertips should be scrubbed daily and the skin under the nail tip kept smooth so that soil won't be so likely to cling. An application of lotion or cream used often over the hands, especially after each manicure, will do a lot to keep the skin smooth and so add to your hand beauty. If brittle, rough nails and dry, split cuticle have been your beauty bugaboo, apply a weekly manicure, supplemented with daily hand scrubbing, to keep fingertips in the pink!

Spotlight On Lamb

Continued from page 61

Brown the onion in the dripping. Add the other ingredients and combine thoroughly.

Casserole of Lamb

- | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| 2 c. cooked lamb, cubed | 3 T. lamb dripping |
| 2 c. canned corn | ¾ c. milk |
| 1 pimento chopped | ½ c. buttered bread crumbs |
| 3 T. flour | Salt and pepper |

Melt the dripping; add the flour; stir in the milk gradually until the mixture thickens. Add corn, pimento (if desired) and lamb. Season. Put the mixture in a greased casserole and cover with buttered crumbs. Bake in a hot oven 400°F until the crumbs are browned (biscuit crust may be used in place of crumbs).

Cut Your Costs

Tips for getting better value in laundry supplies

by MARGARET M. SPEECHLY

HAVE you ever calculated how much it costs to keep a family in clean clothes? Small though the expenditures may seem for soaps and other laundry supplies, they mount up week by week and therefore need to be carefully considered in these days of rising costs.

Instead of having to toil with leaching ashes and rendering tallow as the pioneers did, consumers today are faced with the task of choosing soap from a bewildering array of products, each proclaimed to be the world's best. Unfortunately there is little on the label or package to act as a guide in purchasing, so it is left to the consumer to experiment with various brands or to find out from friends what they have found satisfactory. Not only is this buying in the dark, but it is an expensive way to get information.

The efficiency of any laundry bar or package of flakes as a remover of dirt and grease is determined by the amount of actual soap it contains. It is impossible to discover this from the label, because there is no law that requires a statement of the contents.

Because fats and oils are the most expensive item in soap-making, cheaper materials are often used as adulterants. If the product you buy contains a large proportion of these substances, you are paying soap prices for chemicals that are relatively cheap.

Some of these chemicals or "builders" help the soap to do its work by softening the water, but that does not make the product a good investment. A much more economical plan is to buy a softener for treating the water first, and to add the best grade of soap for getting the clothes clean. What is badly needed is a statement on the label showing how much actual soap each product contains, as well as the percentage of builders and moisture. However until consumers press for suitable legislation, nothing will be done to improve labelling.

IT is true that flakes advertised for washing fine fabrics, such as silks, woollens and synthetic materials, are usually reliable products with very little adulterants and a low moisture content, but how are you to know what brand is a really good choice? Other soaps, suitable for heavy-duty laundering, are also recommended for fine fabrics, so the results of experimenting can cost a pretty penny.

A dark brown bar is not usually a good buy as it is likely to contain rosin, a cheap material that makes a lather but does not remove dirt efficiently. Unfortunately all the white bars on the market are not free from adulterants either. Some are cheapened by adding water-glass or other chemicals which soften water, but why pay soap prices for such products? Further, if the water is soft anyway, you don't need to buy softeners. If you are interested in cutting the expenses of wash-day, think over these matters.

To get full value for your money it is also essential to know the net weight of the bar or package. Few manufacturers bother to put this in-

formation on the container so there is no way of comparing the weight of one brand with another. The size of the package is not a reliable guide either as there may be an empty space at the top. Prices may be the same as last week but if the weight of the package or the bar is reduced, your laundry costs are rising.

Soap now comes in so many different forms that thrifty buying is a difficult matter. Powdered soap is usually a good grade of soap reduced to a powder. On the other hand soap-powder, or washing-powder may contain a small percentage of soap, the rest being made up of chemicals about which you know nothing.

IF such a product shrinks dad's underwear or dims the colors of the children's clothes, it is expensive at any price. Laundry supplies that harm fabrics and dyes definitely increase your costs, but how are you to know, except by experiment, the value of any brand?

The whole question of labelling soaps is something that is of real interest to women's groups everywhere because it affects their pocketbooks week by week. First learn all you can about the manufacture and use of different classes of soap, then decide what sort of labelling would help you to buy more efficiently, and band yourselves together to press for the necessary legislation.

While you are at it find out as much as possible about the new soapless detergents that are so useful in hard water areas. There are many of these products on the market, some good for one purpose, some for another. Study the directions carefully so that you can pick the best brand for the job. As small quantities of detergents go a long way, add only a teaspoonful at a time until you get the desired results.

A simple way to keep down costs is to determine exactly how much soap is required to do an efficient job. If it takes a cup of your favorite flakes to produce a two-inch standing suds in the machine, why use more? Surplus soap does not do any extra work and therefore is sheer waste. Large sums of money are lost by people who dump soap or detergent into the machine or dish-pan. If you take the trouble to measure each time, you will be money in pocket. Think of the fun you could have with the cash saved!

ANOTHER thing that runs up costs is hard water. Surveys have shown that 50 pounds of soap yearly are needed for each person in areas where the water is very hard, which is about three times more than is required in soft water districts. Save money by softening hard water before adding a speck of soap. Measure the softener carefully so that there is enough to deal with the minerals, but never a surplus. This is the first step to economy.

Softening the rinses as well to prevent the minerals from combining with the particles of soap and forming grey curds that not only make fabrics dingy and harsh, but shorten their life.

The new water-softening units for homes are a wonderful saving in soap,

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The first big change in baby's menu comes when the doctor says he's ready for solids—usually when baby is about four months old. Then both mother and baby will discover the joys of Heinz Strained Baby Foods—27 wholesome varieties made from choice vegetables, fruits and meats—easy for baby to swallow and digest.

The next menu change comes when the doctor advises coarser-textured foods. When this happens, choose baby's meals from the 17 varieties of Heinz Junior Foods. Like Heinz Strained Foods, Heinz Junior Foods are scientifically cooked and vacuum packed—to retain minerals and other nourishing elements.

WEIGHT—HEIGHT—AGE TABLE

FOR BOYS							FOR GIRLS							
1 mo.	3 mo.	6 mo.	9 mo.	12 mo.	18 mo.	24 mo.	Height (in.)	1 mo.	3 mo.	6 mo.	9 mo.	12 mo.	18 mo.	24 mo.
8							20	8						
9	10						21	9	10					
10	11						22	10	11					
11	12	13					23	11	12	13				
12	13	14					24	12	13	14	14			
13	14	15	16				25	13	14	15	15			
	15	17	17	18			26		15	16	17	17		
	16	18	18	19			27		16	17	18	18		
		19	19	20	20		28			19	19	19	19	
		20	21	21	21		29			19	20	20	20	
		22	22	22	22	22	30			21	21	21	21	21
			23	23	23	23	31				22	22	23	23
			24	24	24	25	32					23	24	24

(Weight figures shown above are in pounds)

(Weight figures shown above are in pounds)

Heinz Baby Foods (57)

27 Strained Foods • 17 Junior Foods • 2 Baby Cereals

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Serve this wonderful, spirit-lifting blend—

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That famous Grape-Nuts flavor in the form of delicious, honey-golden flakes is scrumptious. Post's Grape-Nuts Flakes are nourishing, too . . . provide useful quantities of carbohydrates and proteins for energy and muscle; phosphorus for teeth, bones; iron for the blood. So tasty — so good — so convenient. Ask your grocer.

GF-239



softeners, and wear and tear on clothing. One person who installed a unit of this type found that she only required 12 cents for soap weekly, whereas in the past her bill for soap and softener came to 67 cents a week. Enquire from your dealer about softening with zeolite, if hard water is robbing your pocketbook.

The cost of laundering is likely to vary from home to home, but it can be greatly reduced by better buying and more care in using each product. The improvements in labelling so badly needed will only be made when consumers decide what they need to guide them in purchasing.

Story Of Big Nance

Continued from page 58

"When Big Nance comes to town," he told us, "everybody locks doors, keeps children in and prays to saints to save from murder or fire till she go again. She creep around at night and rage in the days—so strong and awful. Every time Big Nance on rampage, I tells peoples, 'Do nothin', stay in till she go.'" Then added, "She ees bad; very bad."

Filled with terror, we remembered the "crazy man" in Ontario who had been poisoned by the Indian girl; and here we were, probably facing something just as bad! The little town lived in dread of this one woman who might come any day or night. Father was miles away out on the plains. We children were small and helpless and Mother had no protection except the lock on the door of our little home.

But days and weeks went by and nothing happened.

FATHER came home on Sunday, and again later in the summer. He had filed on his homestead and had also taken a pre-emption of an additional eighty acres of wooded land which would furnish fuel. There were prospects of water without digging too deeply and, best of all, John Hill, a friend from Ontario, had taken an adjoining homestead and was putting up a log cabin. We were to live with him that winter, then move to our own farm the next spring when our cabin would be ready. A clearing was already started on our farm and in the going-to-be garden father had planted the currant and gooseberry slips brought from the old home in Ontario. Things were really taking shape. We were all hopeful and interested as we looked forward to the new life.

My baby brother had recovered and was learning to walk. Big Nance had not come and we became less afraid as we found other interests. Her mother lived near us and had a fine garden. The lonely old French woman liked my mother. In broken English she told sad strange stories about her daughter. Often she gave us fresh vegetables. One day mother sent me over to get some parsnips. They had grown so deep in the clay soil that it was hard to pull them. I watched the gaunt old woman, and when a long-rooted parsnip finally came suddenly out of the ground and she fell backwards, clutching it, I laughed at the funny sight. Then I remembered that it was naughty to laugh at anyone's accident; and, horrors, this was the mother of Big Nance! Maybe she, too, was fierce and dangerous. I was frightened, but she didn't seem to care and I ran home

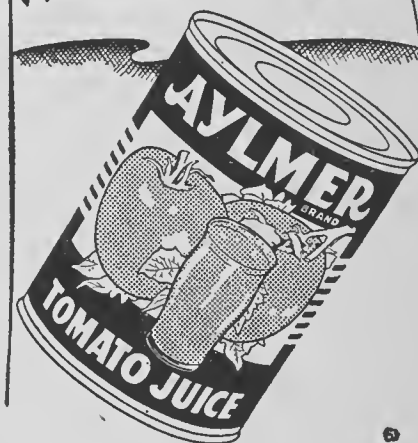
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with the parsnips and other vegetables she gave me.

Summer was almost gone. Soon we would go to the little home where father and John Hill were cutting trees and building the log house.

Then it came!

One morning before daylight mother dreamed that something horrible was grasping her by the feet and calling her. Struggling to awaken from the nightmare and deep sleep, she realized that someone or something was actually pulling at her toes.

In the darkness she imagined she saw a huge form leaning over the foot of the bed. The tugging at her feet continued and now she knew that some great hand was holding her toes. Almost petrified with fright, she thought of her three sleeping children and in silent agony she prayed for protection.

"Who are you, and what do you want?" Mother asked, her voice shaking with terror but strangely quiet.

The great form moved a little, let go her grasp and straightened up to gigantic height. Dimly outlined in the first grey of dawn, in a deep voice hardly above a whisper, she said, "Big knife; me want big knife."

All the revolting stories of Indian massacres seemed rolled into one awful moment as mother tried to think what to say or do.

"Me want knife, big knife," the voice repeated impatiently.

We children awoke, horror stricken, but not one of us spoke. We were too much afraid to make a sound. Young as we were, we realized something of the terror of the event. I shall never forget the horror of that next hour.

Mother got out of bed and lighted the kerosene lamp which stood on the white pine table. The light showed the brown face of a great Indian woman. She was blanketed and had a black silk handkerchief tied around her head. We all knew. This was Big Nance—just as the government agent had described her.

Again she demanded the knife, and mother, knowing her own helplessness, felt that perhaps it was best to humor her. It might be providing her own death, but what could she do? Trembling, she stepped to the shelves nailed to a wall, took out a long carving knife and with shaking hand gave it to Big Nance, who grunted with satisfaction.

Going to the table she laid the knife down, reached into the folds of the blanket with which she was wrapped, and took out a loaf of bread. Then calmly she cut several slices and began to eat them.

"You good woman. You don't talk much," she said as she offered mother some of the bread.

No, mother had not talked much! Under such circumstances words would not come. Now in the first relief from expected massacre of herself and children, she was still too terrified to say anything.

"You good woman," the voice went on. "You English woman; me like English. My mother, she French; me hate French!"

Her voice rose in anger and she went on, "Me hate French; she talk, talk, talk; she French woman. Me like you; you good English woman."

THEN a new idea seemed to come to her mind. With long steps she crossed the room to where the large

tin dipper rested in the water pail. Taking it out, she came back to the table and again reached into her blanket. This time she took out a large black bottle of whiskey and poured a quantity into the dipper. As the fumes of the liquor filled the room, mother's terror increased. The Big Nance legend was built on what she did when drunk and "on a rampage," as Pierre had said.

"You good woman, you drink," she said as she reached the dipper towards mother. "You need whiskey; you all alone with papooses; you need drink."

"No, no; I don't drink. I never take whiskey at all," mother tried to explain.

But Big Nance was persistent. "You good woman; you need drink," she urged. "Me like you; you English; you don't talk much. My mother, she French; she talk, talk, talk; she say me drink; me hate my mother!" Her voice rose again, loud and angry. "You good woman; you need drink."

In some way mother made her understand that she could not take the drink. Then, as she watched in terror, Big Nance lifted the dipper and drank until it was empty. She put the empty dipper down on the table and again reached into her blanket. This time she brought out a package of tea which she opened and poured about half of it into the dipper and gave it to mother, repeating, "You good woman; you don't talk much." Then she raged on about her own mother who talked too much, was French and accused the daughter of drinking. We never knew how long she stayed. It seemed an eternity; probably it was much less than an hour.

DAYLIGHT came and we began to hear the usual neighborhood sounds. Big Nance drew her blanket more tightly around her as though to leave. She assured us of her friendship and said she would come again. Mother unlocked the door to let her out then hastily locked it again as the Indian woman slipped noiselessly away. Not till then did we notice that she had come in through a window after quietly tearing away the mosquito netting.

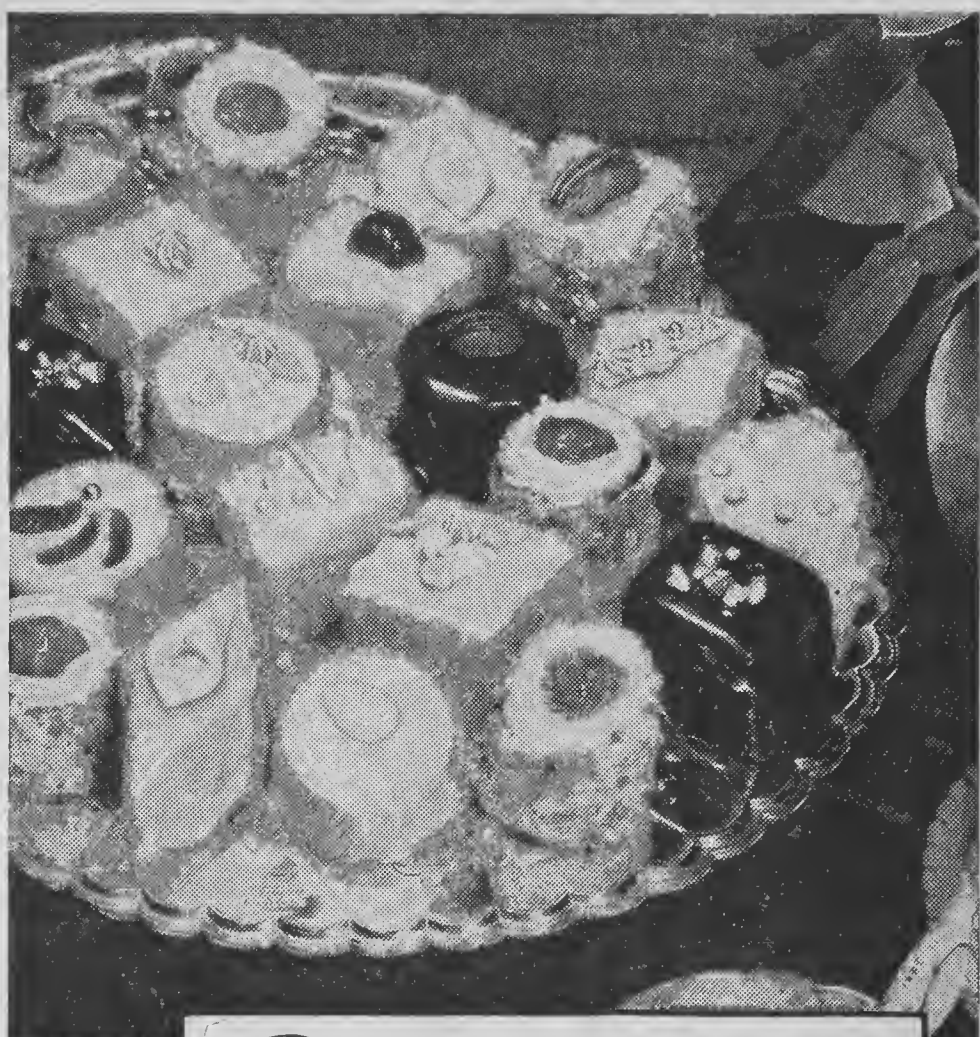
We were sick with blended horror and relief and dazed with the thought that Big Nance might come back any minute in a drunken fury. Mother dressed us and prepared our breakfast. We sat at the table but were too terrified to eat.

"Remember, children, God took care of us when there wasn't anything we could do for ourselves. Now try not to be afraid any more. He will always keep us safe," mother said, trying to reassure us.

A knock at the door filled us with an agony of new fear, but mother quickly opened it when she heard the friendly voice of Pierre Latterneau.

"Stay in and keep the door locked," he warned excitedly as he came in. "Big Nance has come back and is on a rampage. She's drunk. Don't let the children out. I tell all peoples quick."

How well we already knew that she was in town. He listened with horror and then relief as mother told him of her visit to us. He couldn't understand how we could still be alive. Forgetting his hurry, he stood talking a few minutes. Then we heard strange sounds outside and he opened the door a few inches to look out. Terrified, mother



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Each one daintier, more delectable, than the one before—these pretty Petits Fours to grace your party fare! And you can make them puff-light, enchantingly delicate, with Magic Baking Powder! Insist on Magic always, to ensure perfect cakes and protect costly ingredients, at less than 1¢ per average baking!

MAGIC PETITS FOURS CAKE

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 cup sifted pastry flour or | 5 tbsps. butter |
| $\frac{3}{4}$ cup sifted hard-wheat flour | $\frac{1}{2}$ cup fine granulated sugar |
| and 1 tbsp. corn starch | 2 eggs |
| 1 tsp. Magic Baking Powder | 1 tsp. grated lemon rind |
| $\frac{1}{4}$ tsp. salt | 3 tbsps. milk |
| | $\frac{1}{2}$ tsp. vanilla |

Sift flour, Magic Baking Powder and salt together 3 times. Cream butter; gradually blend in sugar. Add unbeaten eggs, one at a time, beating well after each addition; stir in lemon rind. Measure milk and add vanilla. Add flour mixture to creamed mixture alternately with milk, combining lightly after each addition. Turn into an 8-inch square cake pan which has been greased and lined in the bottom with greased paper. Bake in a moderate oven, 350°, about 25 minutes. Let stand on cake cooler for 10

minutes, then turn out and remove paper. When cold, trim away side crusts and split cake into 3 layers; put together again with a thin spread of Royal Pudding (made up in any of its flavors) or with jam; press layers together lightly. Turn cake top-side down and cut into squares or diamonds with a sharp knife, or cut into fancy shapes with sharp little cookie cutters. Spread with butter icing or arrange, well apart, on cake cooler and cover with the accompanying Petits Fours Frosting. Decorate as desired.

PETITS FOURS FROSTING

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| $\frac{1}{4}$ tsp. plain gelatine | $\frac{1}{4}$ cup water |
| 1 tsp. cold water | 1 pound icing sugar, sifted |
| $\frac{1}{4}$ cup granulated sugar | 1 large egg white |
| 1 tbsp. corn syrup | 2 tbsps. shortening |
| | $\frac{1}{2}$ tsp. vanilla |

Soften gelatine in the 1 tsp. cold water. In top of double boiler combine sugar, corn syrup and the $\frac{1}{4}$ cup water; over direct heat, bring just to a full rolling boil, stirring until sugar is dissolved. Remove from heat and stir in softened gelatine; cool to 120° (just a little hotter than lukewarm). Stir in sifted icing sugar and then the unbeaten egg white, shortening and vanilla. Place cake cooler of little cakes on a clean dry metal or porcelain table top; slowly pour frosting over little cakes until they are coated. When frosting has been poured, lift cake rack and with a spatula scrape frosting from table top and return to saucepan; heat over hot water until again of pouring consistency and pour over unfrosted cakes—continue in this way until all cakes have been frosted. For variety, frosting may be divided and tinted delicate pastel shades or a little melted chocolate may be added and the frosting thinned with hot water.





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peered past him, then, the tension released, burst into laughter. While she and Pierre had been talking my brother had run out and hurried to the Stoven home, thrilled with the chance to be the first to tell of what had happened.

When James told the exciting story Mrs. Stoven turned to her husband and exclaimed, "I won't have that poor woman alone there one more day! She must bring the children and come here until Mr. Rorke gets home to stay."

He agreed and they planned how to get us. They had an old cart but no horse nor ox to haul it. Resourceful, as pioneers had to be, one of the larger boys said he would walk between the shafts and pull the cart. Ten-year-old Joe, dragging his father's old rusty sword by his side, was to be guard. So they had come to rescue us—John between the shafts pulling the creaky cart, Joe at one side with the sword, and my six-year-old brother, James, on the other side, proudly important.

"Tell Mrs. Rorke to put those babies and whatever she's going to need into the cart and come at once," Mrs. Stoven commanded at they started down the street.

Gratefully, mother did so.

After a few hours Big Nance left as suddenly as she had come. She had caused no serious trouble, and the village settled down to its usual routine. In a few days mother brought us home, but we lived in dread of another visit.

TWO weeks later, one Saturday evening, the door was stealthily opened and, without a word, Big Nance came in, her moccasined feet making no sound. Her swarthy face was eager and almost smiling. Trembling, mother rose to meet her. We had not yet learned that to open a door and walk in was the Indian way; it meant no discourtesy nor danger. With the assurance of an old acquaintance, the Indian woman had come to her one English friend to tell her good news and to ask a favor.

"You good woman; you don't talk much, she began. "Me got nice young Englishman out back of barn. We run away; my mother, she mad; she no help me. Me want quilt. You good English woman, give me quilt, take dollar. Me bring quilt back one week." With uplifted finger, "get dollar," she eagerly explained and offered a silver dollar as guarantee.

It was not easy to spare a quilt, but mother hurried to get one, hoping Big Nance would go quickly. She took the dollar to keep for the proud young squaw, if and when she brought the quilt back. Big Nance tucked the quilt inside her blanket and then went silently out into the darkness. A week later, true to her promise, she came again, brought the quilt and claimed her dollar. Quite sober, but still bitter against her mother, she talked a while and then disappeared into the night. None of the neighbors saw her.

In the early fall father came to take us to the homestead. With a team of oxen and a wagon we were soon on our way. Again we crossed the ferry and then turning westward we started out on the trackless beautiful prairie. It was rich in the browns and tans of autumn.

The sun glinted on the snowy fox-tail grass swaying in the wind. Gentians and goldenrod set the color scheme in the soft hazy atmosphere.

Gorgeous calamus stalks flaunted their blood-red cones, vying in beauty with the tall brown cat-tails in every swamp we passed. Everywhere miles and miles of unbroken prairie grasses rolled and billowed in virgin splendor and appalling monotony.

As the oxen plodded their slow way through the hours, we lost sight of the woodlands which skirted the storied Red River of the North. The last trace of civilization faded from our sight.

Going West! Going to untried hardships and unknown experiences. Going to the thrill of the new and to the loneliness of utter solitude! We went to meet a great new world where hardy men and women were to carve out new communities. The wilderness was to become a place of homes—homes built by earnest, back-breaking toil among the dangers and simple joys of all who steadfastly faced the West.

THE long warm day was nearly over. We little ones were tired, when we saw a group of tents off to the left in the semi-shade of a clump of willows. As we came nearer and could see more clearly, we realized that it was a band of Indians at rest on the prairie. There were about forty, with the usual swarm of quarrelling, hungry dogs. The men sat and smoked and the squaws, moving about a small fire, seemed to be preparing the evening meal. Shaggy ponies were tethered nearby. We were still afraid of Indians, but some of that first keen terror had left us and we watched with interest as the oxen went slowly on.

Suddenly, out from the others, stood a huge woman, straight, almost queenly, and with long swinging strides came toward us. Immediately we recognized Big Nance, as she had us. She reached us soon, her blanket clutched closely around her, her head bound tightly with the black silk handkerchief, her brown face glowing with pleasure.

As usual, she talked scornfully of the Indians with whom she seemed forced to associate. Indignation at her mother was still high. Stroking our yellow curls, she admired "the little white papooses" and praised my mother for her courage and because she "didn't talk much." Earnestly she promised to come to see us in our new home. Then as suddenly as she had come, she turned and strode back toward the Indian camp. We watched her with a sort of aching loneliness, glad she was gone and yet feeling that we were leaving a friend.

When nearly back to the camp, Big Nance stopped, turned to look at us again, and then threw back her great black-bound head and laughed loud and long. In all our experiences of the following years, we almost never heard an Indian laugh.

We never again saw or heard from the big squaw—big in stature, big in strength, big in her helpless longing to free herself from all that was French or Indian. She was big in a vague inarticulate yearning for English companionship, and big in her admiration of quiet ways and kindly deeds on the part of the lonely English pioneer woman. She was "Big Nance," the terror of the frontier settlements, and yet, who can say what yearnings lay hidden in that tempestuous heart!

Etched deep in my childhood memory, through all the years Big Nance has remained unforgettable.

Gifts To Make

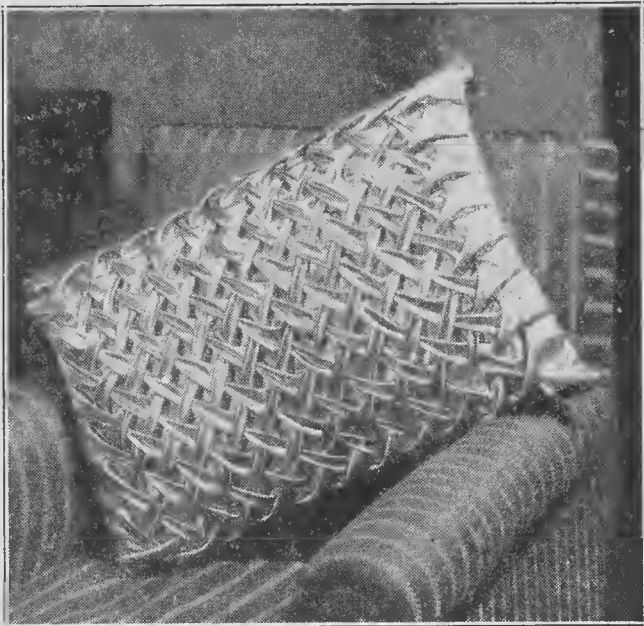
Time to make these pretty and useful gifts for Christmas

by ANNA DE BELLE

A Smocked Cushion

Design No. 851.

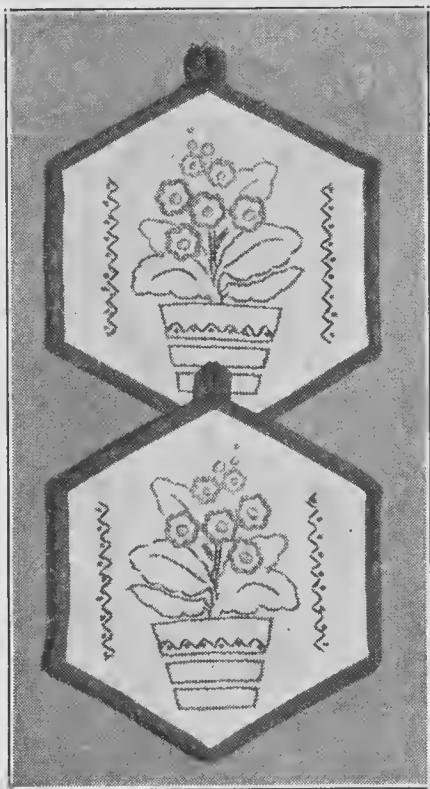
It is hard to believe that this intricate looking basket-weave pattern is so easy to make. Try it in silk or velvet and you will be surprised at its professional appearance. Quickly made, it is an ideal Christmas gift. We supply the cotton backing stamped with smocking dots and full instructions for making. Design No. 851. Price 60 cents.



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Pot Holders



Design No. 742.

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A Toy Horse



Design No. S-110.

He is such a ridiculous little fellow, is Archibald, with his fluffy mane, and legs which pivot back and forth and around. Made from your gayest scraps, any child will love to find him atop his stocking on Christmas morning. Design is No. S-110 and includes cutting patterns and complete instructions for making. Price 25 cents.



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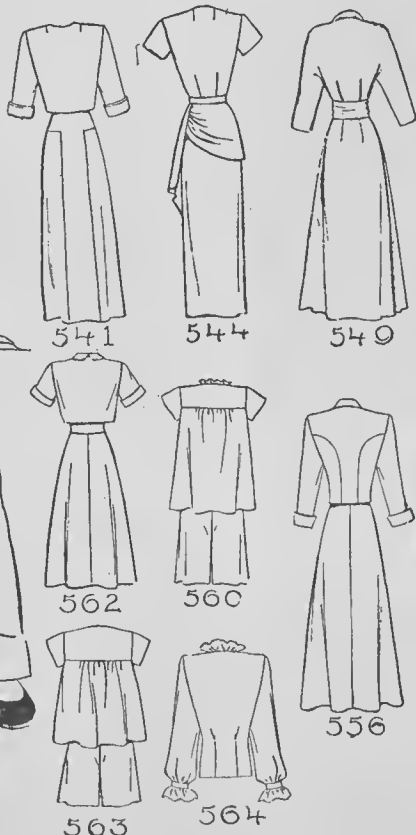
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Party Fun Features

Ideas which will help even the sedate unbend and enter into the spirit of a party

by WALTER KING

ONCE more it is time for evening fun indoors and what could be smarter this year than some new streamlined parlor games?

A table covered with a blanket, around which a half-dozen guests or more can sit. Six large corks, each tied securely to a piece of strong twine about a yard long. An aluminum saucepan. And there's your paraphernalia for the hilarious game of "panning." It may sound childish and silly but you will be surprised at the way this game will break down the reserve of your most sedate guests.

The rules are simple. The corks are placed in a pool in the centre of the table. The guests sit around, each holding the end of the string attached to his particular cork. The "corker" takes the saucepan by the handle, and suddenly, without a bit of warning, he pounces on the corks, endeavoring to trap as many as he can under the saucepan. As the corker's arm comes down to spring the trap, the players jerk their strings in an effort to escape a "panning." Pick up sides, if you like, and make it that the first team to be panned 21 times loses the round. Or you can spend a lively half-hour allowing the guests to play solo. Try it out on the family first, if you like.

A totally different type of amusement that has the flavor of novelty is the five senses game. This is really a humorous quiz, the correct answers to which depend on keenness of the senses rather than encyclopedic information.

The test for sense of smell involves blindfolding the guests one at a time and having them sniff at various foods which are handed to them separately on paper plates. Cups are used for liquids. The absurdity of some of the guesses will bring out rounds of laughter. A slice of a banana is often taken for violets. The complete list might include such items as: coffee soap, cocoa, vinegar, perfume, apple, tea, a spice (not pepper), a breakfast food, and leather. A cup of water will bother those who feel compelled to attach a particular smell to everything.

The touch game, also carried out blindfolded, is a nice test. Have the players guess at such articles as: velvet, flannel, satin, soap, apple peel, rubber, orange peel, sugar, a piece of newspaper, putty, and a piece of macaroni softened to feel like a worm.

For the taste test, besides being blindfolded, the contestants must hold their noses so that the sense of smell is ruled out. Robbed of their particular smells, many foods lose their characteristic taste. Apples and onions, for instance, taste almost identically alike. You actually distinguish these foods chiefly by their odors. Other items on the test list might include: grapefruit, an olive, olive oil, marmalade, bread, spaghetti, jam, cheese, crackers, toast and corn flakes.

The hearing game involves having each player sit on a chair in a corner of the room, facing the wall. Then someone taps the floor with a stick. After the tap is made, the player endeavors to locate the spot by going and placing his foot where he thinks

the tap was made. This repeated three times for each contestant and, of course, the taps are made in widely separated parts of the room. Count any variation of less than 12 inches a bull's-eye (three points), between one and two feet from the spot, an inner (two points), and between two and three feet out, an outer (only one point). The highest scorer has the best S.D.Q. (sound detection quotient).

The seeing test may take the form of an exciting detective game. Announce suddenly that there has been a robbery with violence in the house, and you want all the guests to move into the bedroom and help solve the mystery. On the bed, in a rather grotesque position, is a young man (an old one will do), face down, clothes in such a state as to indicate a severe struggle has taken place. Scattered around the room near the bed are various articles such as keys, notebook, coins, a life saver, a pencil. The guests are allowed only three minutes in the room and are warned they must not touch anything.

Upon returning from the bedroom the guests are given paper and pencil and asked to answer ten pertinent questions, such as: Was there a dime anywhere on the floor? What was the color of the young man's socks? (one black and one brown is always bothersome). Was there a match on the bed? What did the young man hold in his left hand? Did anyone in the room touch the young man? (You did.) The choice of questions is unlimited.

For a general activity game, young and old will enjoy "balloon volleyball." Stretch a piece of string about six feet high across a room. Pick up sides and tap a round balloon over the net back and forth. Service starts at the backline. No player is allowed to hit the balloon more than once before another player touches it, otherwise the opposing team scores a point. No blows are barred: head, arms or legs may be used to get the balloon over the net, but you will find the hands are most reliable. And beware! If the balloon touches the floor or hits the net on any side, the opposing team scores. Play to a total of 21 before changing sides.

While the balloons are in circulation, "blind man's balloon" should not be passed up. Blindfold a lady, tie a balloon to her ankle with a string three feet long. Blindfold a gentleman and have him chase the lady with the object of breaking the balloon by stamping on it. The "Ohs" and "Ahs" and the "Oos" coupled with the yells and screams help to guide the blindfolded players and inject a great deal of hilarity into this parlor game.

For "singles" a balloon-bursting contest is tops. On the word "go" the contestants, two at a time, start to blow up a good-sized balloon. First to burst it without pinching is the winner of the round. The faces in the latter stages of the contest are a treat to behold.

The point to be remembered about your fun with games is that variety and novelty must be injected at every turn. An old game with a new twist is almost as good as a new game.



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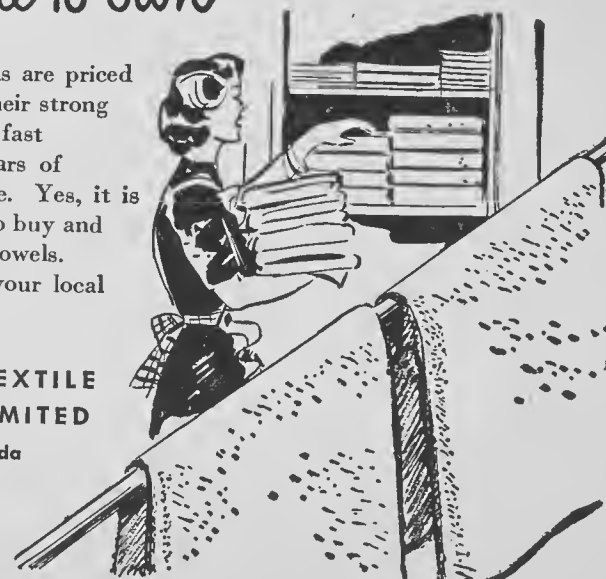


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A Hurdle Of Habit

Continued from page 9

the air of one producing a surprise.

He brought out from the capacious pocket of his mackinaw two handsome apples that he had selected from the filled crates which stood in the shed. He hung his coat and hat in their respective places. He washed his hands carefully, rubbed the apples to a glowing red, and then got out the paring knife and a plate. He quartered the fruit neatly and brought it to the table, where Hannah was sitting in grim-eyed silence. She had foreseen every detail of the procedure, even to his selection of a certain red-banded plate.

"HELP yourself now. Ain't nothing like a good apple at bedtime," he said in a conversational tone as he munched appreciatively. "Always had one of them as long as I can remember."

"I'm sure you did," said Hannah with heavy meaning. Suddenly she rose. She stuffed the unfinished sock into the mending basket. From the clock shelf, she took one of the smaller lamps which stood there. She lighted it in silence, and started for the back stairs.

"You going to bed?" said Myron, in a surprised voice. "It ain't 9:30 yet."

"I don't go to bed by the clock. I go when I'm ready," she said stiffly. "Good night."

Before Myron could answer, she closed the stair door behind her.

In her chilly room, she set the lamp on the dresser. Her mouth tightened with disapproval as she met her own eyes in the mirror.

"What's the matter with you, Hannah Bailey?" she burst out furiously. "What are you doing, falling in love with an old mossback like Myron? Just because he's got a kind of sweet way of looking at you, it doesn't mean anything. Not to you. Sara is his wife and always will be. He wouldn't dream of anything different."

"You'd better go away before you make a fool of yourself, biting his head off for ways he can't help. You'll only make him miserable, staying here, and yourself, too."

The conviction that she ought to leave grew in her. By the time she crept into the icy sheets, she was planning her departure. She must go at once, she thought miserably, without telling Myron. She could not risk being softened by his dismay at an announcement that she was leaving.

She was up at five, a half hour before her usual rising hour. She packed her belongings hurriedly.

Myron's breakfast was on the table when he came in at 6:30, cheerful and brisk at the promise of an exceptionally fine day for finishing the harvest. He left the house for his morning's work promptly at seven.

Hannah did the kitchen chores in rapid order, and set a cold meal on the table for Myron's dinner. Then she took a ruled tablet from Myron's desk and wrote, "I won't be back. Your dinner is on the table. There is food in the pantry, and the house is clean. You will be able to get along until you find another housekeeper. Hannah Bailey." She laid the note on Myron's inverted plate.

The milk truck came at 8:30. The driver was agreeable about giving her a lift to the Junction.

As the truck turned into the highway, she looked back at the rambling old house. It seemed to reproach her with a little air of melancholy in its autumn setting of bare trees and fallen leaves. She turned her face abruptly, and fixed her eyes resolutely on the road that blurred before her.

Her sister was astonished at her sudden appearance, with her trunk at her side.

"Why, Hannah! where are you going?" she exclaimed.

"Right here, if you'll have me," said Hannah miserably.

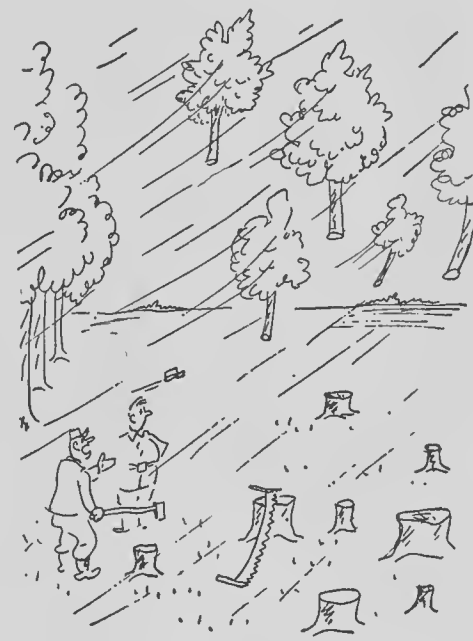
"Why, of course!" said Minnie. "Come right in and tell me what happened."

"Nothing happened," said Hannah flatly, letting her sister take her wraps. "Nothing happened, but I just won't stay in Myron's house another day."

Minnie's eyes grew brighter. "Hannah! Did Myron Hastings do anything—or say anything—" She paused significantly.

"Don't be so nasty-minded, Minnie," said Hannah severely. "Of course, he didn't. Myron wouldn't make an improper advance to a woman if she wanted him to!"

"I just got tired of it, that's all," said Hannah vaguely.



"There's no sense trying to work in this wind."

Minnie's plump face reflected triumph. "I told you so. That house! No electricity, no plumbing, and not even a furnace. I wonder that you stood it this long."

Hannah said nothing. Minnie's theory was a plausible explanation of her actions.

"What do you plan to do, Hannah?" Minnie said curiously. "Go back to teaching?"

"I suppose so," said Hannah slowly.

As she spoke, she seemed to see endless processions of pushing, jostling children marching toward her, while the peaceful order of Myron's house receded farther and farther into the distance.

She moved dully through the morning's tasks with Minnie, only half-mindful of her cheerful chatter. Her eyes kept straying to the clock whose hands marched steadily toward the moment when Myron would enter a strangely quiet kitchen to find her note awaiting him.

At dinner, she barely touched her food. She said little, letting Minnie explain her presence to Bert. She was relieved when the meal was over, and she could get her sister off the subject.

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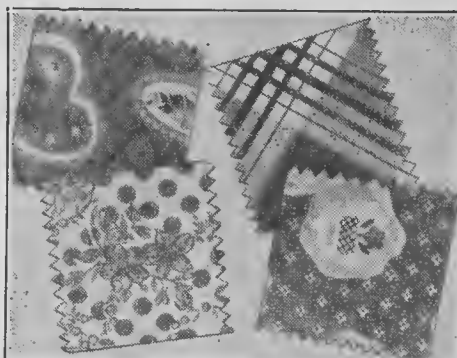
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She was wiping the dishes drearily, when Minnie exclaimed, "I declare! Isn't that Myron Hastings' old Model T?" She peered intently through the curtains.

Hannah stood still, the unwiped dish in her hand held out stiffly before her.

"Yes, sir! He's stopping right here, and he's got his Sunday clothes on!" said Minnie in a voice of rising excitement. "Do you suppose he's coming to see you?"

Hannah felt a wave of panic. She had not anticipated having to confront Myron for some time. To have him appear so soon, in his best clothes, was vaguely terrifying.

"There's the front doorbell!" Minnie looked queerly at Hannah, and exclaimed, "Why, Hannah! What's the matter?"

"Nothing's the matter!" Hannah said vehemently. "Go see what he wants!"

In a minute Minnie was back. "He wants to see you, Hannah. And he's all upset. Didn't he know you were leaving?" she asked in astonishment.

Hannah did not answer. She laid down the dish towel, and walked rigidly to the door. She closed it firmly behind her, on her sister's bursting curiosity.

Myron was standing just inside the living room, twisting his hat nervously in both his hands and looking awkwardly uncomfortable in his unfamiliar clothing. At her entrance, he made a hesitant attempt to smile, but his blue eyes were wretched.

"Well, Myron," said Hannah, with outward composure, "won't you sit down?" She seated herself on the sofa, and waited for him to speak.

He remained standing and when he spoke, his words came out with painful effort. "I—I came to see what's wrong, Hannah. I couldn't eat my dinner for wondering why you'd go so sudden-like. And thinking maybe I'd done something you couldn't put up with."

Hannah was silent, moved by his distress, and unable to find a sensible answer.

"If I didn't pay you enough—I know it's not easy work, keeping house—" he began again uncertainly.

Hannah had found her cue. "No, it isn't easy work," she interrupted, with a sharpness born of emotion. "You paid me more than most people pay their housekeepers. But the work was too hard." She was ashamed of the lie; desperation drove her to take refuge in it.

"You could have told me," he said reproachfully. For a moment he appeared to be thinking hard. Then he said slowly, "If I put in electricity, you could maybe get a washing machine and some of them cleaners and things. Maybe even one of them new stoves if you'd like it."

HANNAH was stunned at his offer. Then as she looked at the work-worn hands still twisting the hapless hat, she found an outlet for the feelings which had been pent up in her for weeks.

"And maybe you could get a milking machine, and lights in the barn," she said, with angry tears in her voice. "And maybe you could get a decent tenant man then. Maybe you could know something besides back-breaking work, and doing everything the hard way."

It was too much for Myron to grasp at once. "I like hard work," he finally said weakly.

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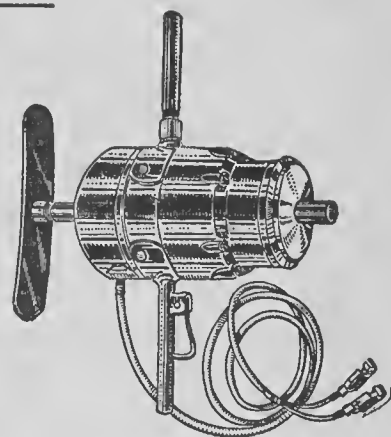


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HOW TO MAKE SURE OF HIGH HATCHABILITY

Below are 10 time-tested rules that have guided many successful Canadian poultrymen. The net result of observing them is almost bound to be a high level of fertile eggs that hatch strong, healthy chicks. Whether you breed to build up your own flock or to sell to hatcheries, check to see if your present method can be improved by any of the profitable steps outlined.

- 1 Use breeding pens of a hundred birds or less.
- 2 Eliminate from the breeding flock all slow-in-maturing pullets.
- 3 Select birds which have proven good layers during fall and winter months.
- 4 Change from Miracle Laying Mash to Miracle Hatching Mash from six weeks to two months in advance of the time that eggs are collected for incubation.
- 5 Select good cockerels for the breeding pens, and where possible only males from R.O.P. or progeny-tested stock.
- 6 Allow males to run with the birds for at least three weeks prior to the time hatching eggs are required.
- 7 Seven or eight cockerels to the hundred birds in light breeds, and nine to ten cockerels in heavy breeds, are usually sufficient in cold weather. During the Spring and Summer fewer are needed.
- 8 To allow the breeder better selection, and also allow for any necessary substitution, two or three extra males should always be purchased per hundred birds.
- 9 In cold weather care should be taken to see that the combs or wattles are not frozen or frost bitten as this will always result in poor fertility for a period.
- 10 Males should get all the feed they need. A good plan is to attach a feeder on the wall too high for the hens but accessible to males. Miracle Hatching Mash should be fed to both roosters and pullets.

One of the most important of the above rules is No. 4, which suggests putting hens on Miracle Hatching Mash six weeks to two months in advance of the time when eggs are collected for incubation. Made from an exclusive formula for the express purpose of producing hatchable eggs, Miracle Hatching Mash contains the elements needed to ensure increased vigour and stamina in both male and female birds. In addition all the nutrients needed by the developing chick embryo are put into the egg by Miracle Hatching Mash. The precious life-germ in the egg is protected and chicks are soundly nourished for the 21 days they remain in the egg. Chicks hatch out big and strong with a vitality that increases their chance for healthy growth. Make your own tests by feeding Miracle Hatching Mash to your breeding birds. Order it from your Miracle dealer — by phone, by mail, or in person.



"MIRACLE" HATCHING MASH

OF-50

"You've never known anything but work," Hannah said accusingly. "How do you know you couldn't enjoy something else in life? But no, you'd rather die than try something new." She dabbed angrily at the tears that brimmed over on her cheeks.

Myron was obviously beyond his depths. He returned miserably to his objective. "You—you wouldn't consider coming back if I got you all them things to make your work easy?" he asked pleadingly.

Hannah fought back an overwhelming temptation to yield.

"No," she said finally. "I won't, Myron. It isn't me you want back. It's just anyone who will cook and clean, and make you comfortable the way I did."

He shook his head, and then he said slowly, as if discovering the sense of his words as he spoke them. "No, it's not just the good food, and the way you keep house so neat. It's—it's how you notice things like sunsets and the way every tree changed color this fall, and how you wear such pretty dresses in the morning, and how you smile at me across the table."

He stopped abruptly, as if overcome by his own eloquence and the hopelessness of it.

Hannah's heart had turned over at his words. She looked up at him mutely. Something in her eyes must



"Oh, who ever heard of anyone being allergic to frozen foods?"

have given Myron courage, for he sat down awkwardly beside her, and took her unresisting hand.

"Hannah," he said desperately, "Will you marry me?"

Conflicting emotions kept Hannah speechless until she sensed his growing fear. Then she turned to look him fully in the face.

"Myron," she asked with compelling intentness, "if I marry you, will you promise to do something new and different every day of your life, even if it's only putting your hat on last, instead of first, when you get dressed to go out?"

He stared at her blankly. Then as he grasped the significance of her question, a look of sheepishness came into his eyes.

There was a wry smile on his lips as he said firmly, "I will, Hannah, if you'll help me to remember."

He leaned over clumsily, and planted a timid kiss on her lips. Then, apparently stimulated by the success of his experiment, he repeated it more boldly.

When he drew his head back, there was a bright, new gleam in his eyes.

"I don't know but what I'll enjoy trying a few new things," he said recklessly.

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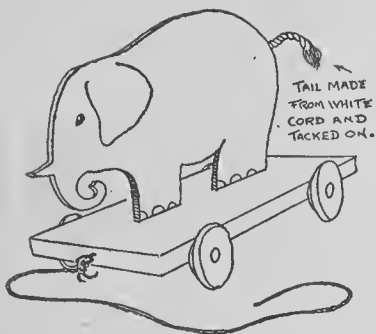
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The Country Boy and Girl



WHEN brisk November days come we begin to think of Christmas and this month we have two ideas for gifts. You could make a toy for baby brother or sister and a work basket for mother. The sketch shows you the elephant toy which is very easy to make. For the base use a sturdy piece of wood about six inches long and two and one-half inches wide and one inch thick. Make a slit three inches long on the top of your board. This slit should be deep enough for the elephant to set firmly in place.

Use two-inch nails to fasten the spool wheels in place. Now trace the elephant on cardboard and color it carefully. Paint the base a bright color and fasten a string to the front of the base so baby brother can pull the toy along.

For mother a basket made from white clothesline rope would make a welcome gift. Coil the rope into a circle about seven and one-half inches in diameter, stitching as you go. Try to hide your sewing in the strands of string and keep the base perfectly flat. Now coil the rope, putting one row on top of the other to form the sides and stitch as you coil. The sides could be straight or slightly curved but keep your work firm and even. Make your basket about seven inches deep. On the last row loop the string every two inches as shown and fasten firmly. Then place a cardboard circle in the bottom of the basket. This basket will hold mother's sewing or, if you wish, place a large jar in it and use it to hold flowers.



Ann Sankey

The Little Grey Donkey

by MARY E. GRANNAN

HIS name was Ned, and he was the gayest, prettiest little donkey that ever lived in a pasture next door to a daisy field. When he woke in the morning, he always said "good morning" to the cow in the pasture, to the birds on the tree, and to the fish in the brook that ran through the daisy field.

He thought it was a very fine world to be living in, and he would gambol through the pasture braying happily about it.

Then one day a little boy chanced to stop by the line fence that ran around the meadow and pasture. The little boy liked him, and called out to him. But the little boy's mother said, "Come away from there, son. Don't go near that little donkey. He'll kick you."

"But," said the little boy, "he looks like a nice little donkey. I don't think he'll kick me."

"All donkeys kick," said mother, "and he's no different from the rest of them."

The little boy waved goodbye to the donkey, and left the fence. Ned was very sad, and he told the cow about what happened. "I wouldn't have kicked him, Mrs. Cow. I liked the little boy!"

A few days later, the farmer who owned Ned sold him to a fruit peddler. "Be careful the way you handle him, Mr. Fruit Seller," said the farmer. "He's a donkey, you know, and he's liable to kick you."

"He won't kick me," said the peddler. "I'll beat the kicks out of him."

He was as good as his word, and he did beat Ned, every day. Ned was very unhappy with the fruit peddler. And one day, he said to himself, "I will kick him. I didn't have any intention of kicking him, but since he thinks that I have, I'll do it."

The next time that the fruit peddler came to harness Ned, the donkey let his heels fly, and he tossed the peddler

out of the stall. Each day after that Ned let his heels fly when he saw the fruit peddler coming. The old man grew afraid of Ned, and sold him to a junk dealer.

"Now, mind you," he said to the junk dealer, "this donkey is a kicker! I could never go near the stable to harness him. He's a good worker, but look out for him."

Tears filled little Ned's eyes. He was to have a new master, and already the master thought him mean. "I wouldn't have kicked the fruit-seller," he sobbed to himself, "but he kept beating me and thinking that I was going to kick him. Why do people tell things like that about me? I never kicked anyone in the pasture. They all loved me there."

The next morning Ned began his new chores. He hauled tin cans and pots and pans and old bottles to a junk yard. A man there smiled when he saw little Ned for the first time, and said, "That's a fine donkey you have there, Mr. Junk Man."

"Oh, he looks alright," said the junk dealer. "But he's a kicker. You better stand back or he'll let his heels fly at you!"

Ned had had no thought of kicking, but when he heard what his new master said, he did let his heels fly. He upset the cart and kicked the cans and pots and pans and bottles all over the yard. Three days later the junk dealer said to him, "Ned, I'm going to turn you out of my stable. I don't care where you go, or what becomes of you. I never want to see your face again."

Ned was almost happy at first. He thought that he could find his meadow again, where he'd see his friend Mrs. Cow every morning . . . where he'd hear the songs of the birds when he woke each morning, where he could graze among the daisies. But he could not find the meadow, and as he searched, people chased him away and told him to be gone.

Then one day, weary with travel,

he stopped by the wayside to eat grass. His coat was scraggly and unbrushed; his tail was burry and sagging. A little boy came along, and the little boy laughed when he saw him, and said, "Hello, little donkey, how are you today?"

Ned lowered his head, but as he looked into the face of the little boy, he knew that the little boy was kind. "I'm fine," said Ned. "I am rather tired. I've been searching for my meadow, and I cannot find it. I wish I could live in a meadow again."

"My father has a meadow," said the little boy, "and if you'd like to come with me, I'll ask him if you can live in it."

"I'll go with you," said Ned. "You're kind."

"Perhaps my daddy won't let me keep you," said the little boy. "He'll want to know who owns you. Have you a master?"

"I did have," said Ned. "But he didn't like me. He told everyone that I kicked. And so I did kick. But I wouldn't kick you. My master chased me away. He said he didn't care what became of me, so it'll be alright with him, if I go with you."

The little boy told the story to his father, and his father said that Ned might live in the meadow. Now every morning at sun up, Ned wakes and says "Good morning" to the cows, and the birds in the trees, and the fishes in the pond. And then he goes to the line fence to wait for his little boy. Boys understand donkeys.

"I Wish They Wouldn't"

ONE thing you must be sure of. Your parents are your most precious pals. They work and plan, and scheme, and sacrifice, just to make certain that you get the very best chance in life. And, if, when you appraise them silently you have a secret "I wish they wouldn't" thought, you may be certain they are quite unaware of any trifling annoyance because they are trying to be helpful.

Yet most young folks have at least one pet "I wish they wouldn't." This was proven when a questionnaire was sent out to representative teen-age young people asking them just what it is that parents do unknowingly to annoy the most. Below you will find ten of the most common answers. Check over the list yourself to find out how many of these things your own parents do that you would rather they left off the program of home stunts. The test will provide some real family fun if you let Mother and Dad in on the answers.

So here is the list—

I WISH MY PARENTS WOULDN'T:

1. Keep reminding me how smart other kids are.
2. Boast so much about me to other people. It makes me feel embarrassed.
3. Attach so much importance to such a little thing as a school report card.
4. Ask me to get home so early in the evening.
5. Give me so much advice about my choice of friends.
6. Preach so much about saving my money.

7. Wake me up so early.

8. Try to do so much planning for me.

9. Object to my favorite radio programs and comics.

10. Cross-examine me so much about where I go and what I do.

Now for your score.

If you could check off only one or two, you may consider yourself very lucky. If you checked off none at all, your parents are either models of thoughtfulness, or victims of a very poor scorer. If you felt that quite a few of these leading annoyances fit your own case, it may indicate you are too sensitive or too hard to please. Try overhauling your frame of mind by remembering that your parents are your best pals whichever way you look at them.—Walter King.

Take Better Snapshots

WHETHER you own an expensive kodak or a humble "ready-aim-fire" box camera, you can improve your snapshooting a great deal if only you will observe a few simple rules.

In the first place, don't take snapshots with the camera facing the sun or you will have a "sun spot" on your picture. Neither should you "click" the camera when the sun is directly behind you in the early morning or late evening, as then you will have dark shadows across the picture.

Another point to remember is that you can't take close-ups with a simple Brownie camera. If you stand closer than four feet you will get a blurred foggy picture. If you really wish to take a portrait (head and shoulders only), stand back about five feet, and if the picture turns out well, cut the negative as required, and have it enlarged.

When ready to "snap" hold your camera still and have it facing your subject squarely. If the camera shoots from an angle, parts of the picture will be out of proportion. When you take a picture of a person lying on a beach you should be in such a position that the person's head and feet are almost equally distant from you.

But before "snapping" be sure you have centralized your subject. When taking a snapshot of a person, make sure he is going to be exactly in the centre of the picture. At the same time, avoid chopping off the top of his head. For a good scenic you should have one object such as a mountain, a waterfall, or a canoe, as your chief point of interest and this should be artistically placed.

Watch your background. Many a good snapshot is spoiled by taking the subject in front of unsightly surroundings.

Candid camera shots are best when your subject is caught off guard, doing something interesting such as skating, posing for a high dive, fondling a pet, laughing at someone else, or tying up baby's shoe. A really good picture tells a story. Never forget that.

Keep a record of each snapshot. Write on the back the date the picture was taken. Mount your prize pieces in your photograph album. Print titles of snapshots in white ink under the pictures.—Walter King.

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VOL. LXVIII WINNIPEG, NOVEMBER, 1949 No. 11

Atomic Energy Control

The September announcement that the Russians now had the atomic bomb has intensified the search for some acceptable formula which will provide a reasonable measure of control by the UN Atomic Energy Commission.

On the same day the disclosure was made, Mr. Vishinsky, speaking before the General Assembly, called for "rigid international control." It was an ironic gesture, in view of the fact that the "peaceful" Mr. Vishinsky and his colleagues have obstinately and persistently refused to countenance any genuine plan aiming at international control. Nevertheless there was a faint flicker of hope when Russia's Deputy Minister Malik announced a week later that he had important new proposals to make.

Mr. Malik spoke on October 10. It was the same old hash. It called on member nations to submit full information on all conventional armaments within their own borders, as well as atomic weapon manufacture. There was nothing in it remotely resembling effective control. The Russian position remains the same. They stubbornly refuse to permit the necessary degree of international inspection. The French representative, M. Jean Chauvel, expressed the unanimous opinion of the western powers when he politely implied that unverified Russian information would be of no value in attempting the kind of collaboration the situation demands. The western powers which are all willing to allow international inspection to verify their statements have a right to ask for, nay a duty to demand, equal check on Russian information.

The situation, therefore, remains what it was a month ago. The Soviet representatives on the Atomic Commission have refused to negotiate except on the basis of the Soviet proposals, which both the Commission and General Assembly have found to be wholly inadequate, if not dangerous.

The Soviet plan provides that nations shall continue to own explosive atomic materials, and to operate plants for making or using such materials. The majority believes that no system of checking or inspection could prevent the diversion of explosive materials from plants which are nationally owned and operated.

The Soviet plan provides for only periodic inspection that is limited to declared facilities, with inspection of secret facilities only where there is evidence that such facilities exist. But no means are provided for the gathering of such evidence.

The Soviet plan provides that the suggested international inspecting agency should be required to refer its recommendations for action to the Security Council, where the power of veto could be exercised upon them. The majority is unable to conceive of effective enforcement under such a plan.

Mr. Malik's return to this stale dish has been characterized by Canada's Lester B. Pearson as naive and ingenuous. In reply to the Soviet unwillingness to surrender the slightest particle of its sovereignty by allowing outside inspection, he has countered by observing that all the other nations willing to suffer unrestricted outside inspection surrender an equal fraction of their sovereignty. If traditional concepts of national sovereignty stand in the way of salvation from atomic annihilation, it is time they were re-examined.

As the Atomic Energy Commission has reported to the General Assembly that it can make no further progress in the light of Russian intransigence, the matter is now in the hands of a smaller committee of the big powers meeting in secret sessions to discover if there is any possible basis for agreement. The task before the committee is a grave one. The price of failure is unthinkable.

An International Clearing House

The importance of the food distribution plan now being deliberated by F.A.O. was brought home to Canadians by the address of N. E. Dodd, successor to Lord Boyd Orr, before the annual meeting of the Manitoba Pool at Winnipeg on October 26.

Mr. Dodd presented a startling picture of the food situation the world around. Humanity has 55,000 more people to breakfast every day than it had the day before. There are 200 million more mouths to fill in the world than there were before the war, a number greater than the combined population of the North American continent. Feeding standards, bad enough before the war, when two people out of every three never had enough to eat, are worse now everywhere except on this continent. Were it not for the high production of North America the situation would be worse still.

In the years since the war, areas of food scarcity have been able to alleviate their needs by purchase from the providential North American abundance. But the deepening exchange difficulties of the non-dollar world have raised a disquieting prospect. Nations in dire need of food, which can only be procured in North America, have not the dollars wherewith to buy it. Whole races of people living dreadfully below subsistence levels are threatened with further serious ration cuts by the dislocation in world trade. Meanwhile unsalable surpluses pile up in the New World, and producers hark thoughtfully back to the early thirties when they brought ruin on themselves by producing more than could be sold. The paradox of want in the midst of plenty is re-appearing in sharp outline. And no greater calamity could befall than a curtailment of production in North America brought about by a loss of confidence on the part of farmers in the ability of markets to absorb their products. The North American economy must not be allowed to grind down to low speed if western political ideas are to survive.

The attack on the problem to date has been an effort to restore multilateral trade and currency convertibility. It must be evident to all that this is going to be too slow a process. Hunger does not wait on debate. In all the backward countries of the world Communist propagandists are trying to persuade people that only by adherence to their way of life can the sufferers expect any betterment of their lot. The alluring edifice of false promises reared by Communist agents can not be broken down by contradiction. It can only be done by sharing western plenty with those who are experiencing slow, chronic famine.

Accordingly, the directors of F.A.O. are proposing to the November meeting of that body the immediate formation of an international commodity clearing house, or ICCH. Only the broad outlines are available to the public, but the plan is to move surpluses to distress areas at less than prevailing market prices. It is not a proposal to dispose forever of surpluses at reduced prices, but an interim device to keep production in the western world high while economic order is being restored throughout the world. In the short run it may be considered by some as another give-away scheme borne on the backs of the surplus producing countries. In the long run it is nothing of the kind for it will promote recovery and production of marketable commodities over a wide area, which can be traded in restored markets.

Mr. Dodd made out a very convincing case in his Winnipeg speech. "We have in our hands," he said, "the power to use our surpluses of goods and of technical knowledge to build a world positively dedicated to peace. The greatest risk of all is to let that last golden chance slip out of our hands." It is a proposal that deserves earnest study and support by Canada.

Pandit Nehru's Visit

Canadians have been so pre-occupied with troubles across the Atlantic that they have given scarce attention to the difficult birth pangs of a new era in the East. The presence at Ottawa last month of India's distinguished prime minister, Pandit Nehru is a reminder that they must now make some revaluation of the importance to this country of the

sweeping changes that are taking place in the Orient.

China, America's bastion in Asia for many decades, has been washed away in the Communist flood. Southeast Asia is a seething ferment of economic dislocation and nationalist unrest. Events might lead it into the same camp as China. Japan under the Pax MacArthuriana is obsequiously obedient, but that nation has shown no aversion to switching sides in the past, besides which her bloody wartime rule over occupied territories earned her so much hatred that she will not be readily accepted as a leader by her neighbors. In that tremendous pool of manpower from the Persian Gulf to the open Pacific the only stable governments of commanding proportions are the new Commonwealth nations, India, Pakistan and Ceylon. The Atlantic nations have come suddenly to realize that in any life-and-death struggle with Communism, these nations might become their only allies in Asia. The Russians, never slow to explore possibilities, are equally aware of it. They are actively propagandizing throughout India. They are villifying Nehru and badgering the new regime with the tactics familiar to the West. They have been troublesome locally to the point where the Indian government has had to protect itself with vigorous police measures.

While Mr. Nehru's public appearances in Canada and the United States were gratifying displays of mutual regard, some searching questions must have been asked behind the scenes. Just as the West wants military assurances, so does Mr. Nehru want economic assistance. The difficulties facing his new government are legion. The land of India is run down. Its agriculture is obsolete. The country needs industries. Established industries need equipment and financing. India's housing situation is deplorable, made worse by the influx of six million refugees after partition. Unemployment in some areas, and in some industries, is already troublesome. Food is scarce. India needs large wheat shipments to alleviate incipient famine. The country needs reclamation, irrigation and electrification in the long run. It needs technical advice and training schools for the rapid spread of modern methods. Mr. Nehru can produce from his pocket a very impressive list of urgent needs. Doubtless he could be sure of a sympathetic ear at Washington and Ottawa. President Truman's Point Four program, widely publicized before the Indian premier's arrival, foretold the reception he could depend on in the White House. There is no reason to believe that the Canadian welcome would be any less sincere.

The military men, however, will probably want to do a little horse trading, to make present aid conditional upon future armed support. It is doubtful if that method will succeed. Mr. Nehru has been scrupulously careful to observe the strictest neutrality between the two forces parted by the Iron Curtain. He considers a defense pact among the non-Communist nations of Asia premature, and urges instead an effort to bring about co-operation among all the Asiatic countries. If aid from North America is extended to India on terms it can accept it will be eagerly received. If it has strings attached to it India will go her own way. All Nehru's life is a warning that he cannot be bought. A man who has had so much to say about the "psychology of blind fear," whose life endeavor has been a passionate struggle to raise the conditions of living for the millions of his down-trodden countrymen, would not understand a deal in which North American wheat was offered as a counter in a military bargain.

Whatever practical steps may come from Pandit Nehru's visit, it can be said that a new Asiatic policy is in the making for Canada.

A big fight is looming over television. The CBC and the National Film Board have told the Massey Commission on Culture that it should be put under their wing. The film industry, aware of the tidy profits made by private broadcasting stations, is determined not to let this ripening plum fall under public control. Now is the time to demand assurances from each of these groups that nothing like the singing commercial will ever develop in television studios.